THE ATHENÆUM.

No. 9. SEPTEMBER 1st, 1807.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

BEING at present very seriously engaged in a new edition of Ames's Typographical Antiquities by Herbert, to be published in five quarto successive volumes, with numerous plates and illustrations, I take this opportunity of enquiring whether any of your antiquarian readers may chance to know in whose possession are the following articles, as described by Mr. Gough, in his "Memoirs of Mr. Joseph Ames," prefixed to Herbert's edition, p. xxxii.

"Mr. Ames's collection of title-pages to books, from 1474 to 1700, in three volumes folio, with several bundles more; and of title-pages alphabetically arranged according to the place where printed, in two more folio volumes; a written title-page, with a curious border, containing some thousand letters cut in wood, a folio volume, bound in Russia—all purchased by Mr. Walpole."

I may probably, in the course of this undertaking, trouble you with a few more queries relating to curious or scarce books, of which the owners might probably not object to their being brought to light in a publication so peculiarly calculated for bibliographical anecdote.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. F. DIBDIN.

Kensington, July 8, 1807.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

FURTHER REMARKS ON THE INVENTIONS IN COTTON-SPINNING.

Sir,

YOUR correspondent R. R. in his eagerness to correct what he calls "a very common error," has himself fallen into a much

greater, in the short account he has given of the invention of spinning machines.

Till about the middle of the last century all the yarn spun, not only in this country but in every other, was produced by the single spindle, either on the distaff or one-thread wheel. The machine of Paul, for which about this time a patent was obtained, was, I believe, the first for spinning cotton which was made public. Of its merits I know nothing, but they could not be very great, as it was never in general use, and was laid aside some years after its introduction. Various contrivances were successively employed, but with little advantage, till the invention of the Jenney, by James Hargreaves, in the year 1767. Hargreaves was a weaver at Stanhill, near Church, a few miles distant from Blackburn, in Lancashire. He was a plain, industrious, but illiterate man, with little or no mechanical talent. His first machine, which is still remembered in the neighbourhood, was made by himself, and almost wholly with a pocket-knife. It contained eight spindles, and the clasp by which the thread was drawn out was the stalk of a briar split in two. It was a rude but successful attempt, and was soon followed by several others of enlarged dimensions, in the workmanship and contrivance of which he was greatly assisted by his friends. The principle of the machine, however, remained the same, and has never been altered to this day. The riots and disturbances which immediately followed the introduction of this machine drove Hargreaves out of the country. He removed to Nottingham, the seat of the stocking manufacture, and assisted in the erection of a cotton-mill about the time that Mr. Arkwright first settled there, after obtaining a patent for his twist frame. Mr. Arkwright's machine was in principle totally different from that of Hargreaves, and displayed more thought and talent in the contrivance; it was also greatly superior, and notwithstanding what your correspondent R. R. says of it, has laid the foundation of all our great superiority in every branch of the cotton manufacture.

For this invention Mr. Arkwright obtained a patent in the year 1769. This patent was contested about the year 1772, on the ground that he was not the original inventor. He obtained a verdict, however, and enjoyed the patent without further interruption to the end of the term for which it was granted.

After this decision, and not earlier I believe than the year 1775, Mr. Crompton invented the mule, on which, as your correspondent justly observes, all the fine yarn of this country is now spun. The mule, as its name imports, is a kind of mixed machine, consisting of Sir Richard Arkwright's system of rollers, engrafted as it were upon the jenney. It is, in fact, a combination of the two machines, the jenney and the twist-frame; and after Mr. Crompton had invented it, he had no right to use, nor was it used publicly, at least without Sir Richard's permission, till the expiration of his patent, for the *rollers*, which form an essential part of the mule, form also an essential part of the twist-frame, the only part which Sir Richard claimed as original, and the only one on which his exclusive right was founded.

The

The jenney of Hargreaves differed nothing in principle from the one-thread wheel; the train of thought, therefore, which led to its invention, was obvious enough to have occurred to many; but the rollers of Sir Richard differ in principle so materially from every other known contrivance, and, I may say, from every probable contrivance, for effecting the same end, that it is scarce possible to conceive that any thing but accident could have suggested the idea. Accordingly we find Sir Richard himself acknowledge that it was to accident he was indebted for the first hint of this improvement; but the plan was long in maturing, and it was several years before he was able to render his machine certain and effectual. Had the invention of the mule preceded that of the twist-frame, as your correspondent loosely insinuates, or even had it been coeval with it, is it likely that Sir Richard could have maintained his patent-right, or that a fact of such importance could have escaped the knowledge of that host of adversaries with which Sir Richard had to contend from the very first.

The term mule, which is applied to this machine, is itself characteristic of its origin, and proves that it is the offspring of the twist-frame and jenney: and your correspondent would have done well to have rendered himself more minutely acquainted with its form and principle, ere he had described it as a "machine of entirely different structure," "invented about the time, *or perhaps rather before*, Sir Richard obtained his patent," "not a mere improvement, but a separate invention," possessing "all the merit of originality."

It is not my wish to detract from the merit of Mr. Crompton, to whom every praise of ingenuity and skill is due, and who, by a judicious combination of the two machines of Arkwright and Hargreaves, has produced a third, in principle the same, but in some respects superior to either, more especially for spinning the fine kind of yarn. But the merit of invention and originality is due to Sir Richard alone; his claims have been sanctioned by a jury of his countrymen, and were never before, to my knowledge, disputed either by Mr. Crompton or his friends. The pretensions of Sir Richard's early associates to a share of his invention, by which his right was even attempted to be set aside, enter not into the present question. Your correspondent has made a claim in favour of Mr. Crompton alone; a claim of priority and originality, unsupported, however, by any kind of proof, and completely at variance with the facts which I have just stated.

From the general tenor of your correspondent's letter, however, I am disposed to believe that he is himself but superficially acquainted with the subject on which he has addressed you, and has fallen into an error in which Mr. Crompton never can support him; otherwise it is scarce possible to conceive how he could have asserted the two machines to be of "entirely different structure;" "the one not an improvement of the other, but a separate invention," since they are manifestly and notoriously so similar in many respects.

The machines for preparing cotton for spinning have, as your correspondent justly observes, kept pace with the spinning itself; but I was ignorant that our obligations were *chiefly* due to Mr. Crompton for these

these improvements. I have always regarded Sir Richard Arkwright as the inventor of that beautiful and most perfect series of machines by which cotton is now generally prepared for spinning; and though he lost his exclusive right to the whole by one solitary instance of anticipation, yet his claim even to that contrivance* is still, I believe, regarded as just by all who are well acquainted with the history of that litigation. The invention of cylinder cards is claimed by many, and perhaps with equal justice; yet, if I mistake not, the late Robert Peel, Esq. father of the present Sir Robert, was the first in point of time. He constructed a machine at Blackburn as early as the year 1762, in which he was assisted by Hargreaves, afterwards the inventor of the jenney, and who had before this time greatly improved the common hand or stock cards. Many years elapsed before this machine was sufficiently perfect to be really useful, and I shall be glad to find Mr. Crompton on the list of its improvers. It was in the hands of Sir Richard Arkwright that it received its last finish, whose genius rendered it one of the most beautiful and perfect contrivances in the whole business.

I do not clearly understand your correspondent when he speaks of some other inventions of Mr. Crompton, by which "the moving power either produced by steam or water is caused to do the greatest possible work from the degree of force given;" nor where he ascribes to him a share in the merit of applying steam engines to the purposes of spinning. Perhaps he will have the goodness to explain and particularize these inventions.

Your correspondent seems to have yet to learn, that the knowledge and use of this machine (the mule) is as well known upon the continent as it is here, and that all the vigilance both of the government and manufacturers of this country has been unable to prevent either the exportation of machines or the emigration of mechanics. I have myself seen yarn of 200 hanks in the pound which was spun in Germany, in which country and in Prussia and Switzerland are many considerable cotton-mills. In France a few years ago there were erected in one year only not less than seventy mills, for which one contractor alone engaged to furnish upwards of twenty steam engines. The population of France engaged in the cotton-manufacture amounted a year or two ago, according to the report of Chaptal, ex-minister of the Interior, to 200,000 persons.

Your correspondent is more accurate in some of the concluding statements of his letter. Mr. Crompton never did, and, for reasons which must be obvious to every one, never could obtain a patent for his machine; nor has he, I believe, derived that advantage from it which, from its importance, he had a right to expect. A subscription was begun some years ago, and I understood that a sum, a small one indeed, had been presented to him by some of the principal manufacturers of Lancashire, but the information of your correspondent on this head at least is probably more accurate than mine.

In

* The crank in the carding machine that takes off the cotton.

In troubling you with this communication, I have no other wish than to correct the mis-statements of R. R. whose zeal to do justice to the merits of one man has rendered him guilty of great injustice to another—to a man who has long and deservedly been considered as the father of spinning in this country, and whose genius has "enabled us to surpass all our rivals, not only in the beauty of the manufacture, but in our ability to undersell them in their own markets."

I am, Sir, &c. T.

EXTRACTS FROM A MANUSCRIPT TOUR THROUGH THE COUNTIES OF GLOUCESTER, WORCESTER, SALOP, HEREFORD, AND MONMOUTH.

By a gentleman of Literary eminence—(continued.)

The city of Gloucester can boast a Roman if not a British origin, but the present city has been built nearer to the great monastery founded in Saxon times. It retains the usual form of Saxon towns. Four cross streets, once crouded with churches and markets, are now paved and regularly built, and the modern improvement of old towns has been successfully applied. We inspected the county gaol, which is constructed in a style of singular propriety, suggested, in part, by the foreign lazarettos. It evinces the skill of the architect, who has shewn that the punishment of malefactors may become more effectual as more systematic and refined.

By the sumptuous cathedral we were readily attracted. As the area in which it stands is equally spacious and neat, the elevation gains every advantage, and rises with appropriate dignity. Several of the English cathedral churches are degraded by their environs, and the architectural effect of them, if not totally obscured, is at least greatly impoverished. The good taste with which some of them have been restored within these few years, has been farther displayed in extending and beautifying the area in which they are now centrically placed. Of this advantage a more noble instance does not occur than at Salisbury, or a more striking one from its deficiency than at Winchester.

The rich Benedictine abbey at Gloucester was distinguished by its magnificent church, which was spared at the reformation, and applied as the cathedral of the newly-erected see. During successive centuries it was still gaining additions of architectural splendour, and there are few ecclesiastical edifices in England which will so completely demonstrate the precise style by which each æra of Gothick in this kingdom, in its deviations and varieties, is marked.

No cathedral in this kingdom has cloisters of equal beauty, or now seen in a state of equal perfection. In general, from the observations which I had opportunities of making on the continent, this kind of building in particular is extremely inferior. Almost every convent has its cloisters, and those annexed to the great churches are probably the best, but they are chiefly plain unornamented inclosures, for the purpose

purpose of exercise and devotion. The most extensive I saw, which were those at Pisa, while the contiguous buildings are in a style of the finest Lombard Gothic, are in a great measure void of architectural embellishment, which deficiency is supplied by the works of Ghiotto and his scholars. Less frequently, indeed, the walls are covered with fresco painting, of which the most celebrated instances are of that at Florence, in the monastery of the Annunciata, where is the Madonna Del Sacco, by Andrea del Sarto, and that of the Carthusians at Paris, where Le Sueur has so admirably described the death of St. Bruno.

The fifteenth century, in which the Gothic attained to its greatest perfection, and hastened to its decline, was the æra of many of the most beautiful towers now remaining. In point of symmetry this at Gloucester may contend with those at Canterbury, York, and Wells, if not for height and ornament. Its open battlements and pinnacles are still richer than of those above-mentioned, which must be seen by moonlight, that the full effect of their elevation and magnificence may be felt to the greatest advantage. That at Taunton is of the same æra, and extremely like it, particularly in the finishing.

There is little analogy between the towers on the continent and those of our own country; for those at Pisa and Florence have neither battlement nor pinnacle; and those in France and Germany, placed on each side of the western front, are incrusted with minute particles, and drawn up to a conic form, as if intended to have been finished with a spire. We may therefore claim this excellence of the Gothic style as peculiarly English. A circumstance much to be regretted is the frequent demolition of the statuary which added so much to the external enrichment of ecclesiastical buildings. Being usually made of marble on the continent, at least in Italy, they have alike escaped the decomposition occasioned by climate, and the rage of fanatics.

As to the interior of Gloucester cathedral, every spectator will be satisfied with its neatness and appropriate solemnity. There are yet several alterations which will immediately occur to the man of taste, as tending to increase the characteristic simplicity and uniformity of the whole. The first object to be removed is the skreen, so capriciously designed by Kent, which is more Chinese than Gothic. After what has been done at Salisbury and Windsor, we may readily conjecture with what advantage the same judgment and taste might be employed in other churches, which have suffered in nearly an equal degree from what has been called "beautifying," as from barbarous mutilation.

Of monumental sculpture there are three very interesting specimens. When Edward the Second was murdered at Berkeley castle, none of the adjacent monasteries would receive the royal corpse excepting Gloucester. His son and successor determined to do honour to that inglorious prince, by erecting a tomb to his memory. It now stands near the high altar, and is the most ancient piece of sculpture in England which exhibits such perfection of art. Cavallini had been brought into England by Edward the First, and it is probable that he established

established a school of sculpture here, yet perhaps none of his pupils were competent to such a performance. By Rysbrack, who visited this monument with professional veneration, it was supposed to have been finished by some sculptor of those who flourished in that age in the north of Italy. In the street at Verona are three canopied tombs of the Scaligeri, which very nearly resemble this, both in form and workmanship.

Another worthy observation is a table tomb, upon which are extended the recumbent figures of Alderman Blackleach and his wife, dated 1639, in white marble, and apparently very accurate copies from portraits by Vandyke. As they are of much better execution than any of those acknowledged by Nicholas Stone, a conjecture may be allowed that they are the work of Francesco Fanelli, whose statues in bronze at St. John's-college, Oxford, and in Westminster Abbey, were justly admired in the reign of Charles the First, during which he left Florence to find employment in England.

The third is a groupe by Flaxman, which claims attention, although not without its defects, as one of the earliest efforts of a genius in sculpture, whose subsequent advancement in his art will do honour to the English nation. Several monuments which have been lately placed in the cathedral at Chichester are increasing proofs of his genius and taste. His classic simplicity may in time command as general approbation as the theatrical groupes of Rysbrack and Roubiliac, beautifully as they are executed.

In point of comparison, the cathedrals in England admit of one much nearer to each other than to any in the Netherlands and Germany. Those of Brussels and Ratisbon are the most like our own. At Bruges, Aix la Chapelle, and Vienna, although in the ground plans a similar distribution may be observed, yet the arcades and the ornamental particles of the architecture are essentially different. The central cupola of the cathedrals in Italy form alone a wide discrimination from those in France and England. But a material circumstance, which increases the dissimilitude in the eye of the English traveller, is the introduction of so many objects which belong to the Romish worship, and which having taken place in different æras, are peculiar to each of them. Such accumulation of painting and sculpture not in unison with the architecture, creates a splendid confusion.

Leaving Gloucester for Cheltenham, the country wears the appearance of a cultivated vicinity to a large town. At the third stone, the romantic hill of Churchdown spreads more, losing its conic shape; and with the little white church on the summit, placed there by laborious piety in lieu of a more ancient cross, is a pleasing object. In the great distance on the other side, the Malvern mountains rise in majestic elevation, and in a series continued for many miles. As they are totally bare of wood, they acquire a delicate blue tint, which changes by degrees of approach into a russet hue, but their outline is still picturesque, as the points are neither too spirally drawn, nor are the ridges too much extended in right lines.

The

The Transylvanian mountains, inveloped in forest, are almost black in the grand distance, whilst the topmost summits of the Alps are glaringly white with eternal snows. In either of these instances the harmony of the composition is disturbed. Of these hills at Malvern, the nearest resemblance I can recollect is that of the lowest Appenines, as seen skirting the Campagna of Rome.

In every approach to Gloucester from the great vale the cathedral tower is a grand discriminating object.

The long street of Cheltenham has been modernized since the medicinal waters have gained so general a fame. To the valetudinary and the man of wealth and leisure Cheltenham, has as many inducements to offer as other resorts of the same nature in England. The great avenue leading to this salubrious spring, when peopled by elegant groupes in easy motion, presents an interesting coup d'œil. For such exhibitions these streets of trees have many advantages over serpentine walks, in which the view must necessarily be partial.

Under the western sun the broad scars of Leckhampton glow with the richest tints, and present a very bold head-land, which stretches itself till it bounds the vale of Evesham.

(To be continued.)

For the Athenæum.

OF THE ORDER OF FOOLS.

ALTHOUGH it might be naturally expected that daily experience would teach us the fallacy of outward appearances, yet how frequently do we not become the dupes of our credulous and heedless reliance on them, and condemn that of which a more mature investigation would have led us to entertain the most favourable opinion? To those, therefore, and they will not be few, who imagine the present subject too ridiculous to merit their serious attention, I would recommend the observance of that sober maxim of old, "Blame not before thou hast examined the truth; understand first, and then rebuke"—and I am convinced that, if they will patiently peruse the following account of the origin, nature, and design of the "Order of Fools," they will discard the contemptuous opinion they may at first sight have formed of it, and find it deserving of their warmest admiration.

On St. Cunibert's day (the twelfth of November) 1381, Adolphus, Count of Cleves, in conjunction with the Count de Meurs and thirty-five noblemen of Cleves, instituted this order under the appellation of "d'Order van't Geeken Gesellschap." The original patent of creation was formerly preserved in the archives of Cleves, which, however, were totally destroyed by the French revolutionists upon their first irruption into Germany, and the only genuine copy of it which now exists, and of which, for the information of the curious, I have subjoined

subjoined a translation, is to be found in Von Buggenhagen's Account of the Roman and National Antiquities, &c. discovered at Cleves. To this document are affixed thirty-six seals, all imprinted on green wax, with the exception of that of the founder, which is on red wax and in the centre of the rest, having on its right the seal of the Count de Meurs, and on its left that of Diedrich van Eyl. The insignium borne by the knights of this order on the left side of their mantles consisted of a fool, embroidered in a red and silver vest, with a cap on his head, intersected harlequin-wise with red and yellow divisions and gold bells attached, with yellow stockings and black shoes; in his right hand was a cup filled with fruits, and in his left a gold key, symbolic of the affection subsisting between the different members.

It is uncertain when this order ceased, although it appears to have been in existence at the commencement of the sixteenth century, when, however, its pristine spirit had become totally extinct. The latest mention that has hitherto been found of it occurs in some verses prefixed by Onofrius Brand to the German translation of his father Sebastian Brand's celebrated "*Navis Stultifera Mortalium*," by the learned Dr. Geiler von Kaisersberg, which was published at Strasburg in the year 1520.

Two-fold was the purpose of the noble founders of this order; to relieve the wants and alleviate the miseries of their suffering fellow-creatures, and to banish ennui during the numerous festivals observed in those ages, when the unceasing routine of disports and recreations which modern refinement has invented in the present, were unknown. During the period of its meeting, which took place annually and lasted seven days, all distinctions of rank were laid aside, and the most cordial equality reigned throughout. Each had his particular part allotted to him on those occasions, and those who supported their characters in the ablest manner, contributed most to the conviviality and gaiety of the meeting. Indeed we cannot but be strongly prepossessed in its favour, when we recur to the excellent regulations which accompanied its institution, and were admirably calculated to preserve it, at least for a great length of time, from degenerating into absurdity and extravagance.

We must not confound this laudable establishment with the vulgar and absurd practices which, till of late years, existed in many places under the names of Feasts of Fools and of the Ass,* &c. These were only national festivals, intended for the occasional diversion, or, as in those days they were termed, rites to promote the pious edification of the lower classes, which, "not unfrequently introduced by a superstition of the lowest and most illiberal species," soon became objects of depravity and unbridled licentiousness. Of a totally different nature also, and analagous only in quaintness of appellation, were the societies established by men of letters in various parts of Italy, such as the society of the "Insensate" at Perugia, of the "Stravaganti" at

* For an account of this disgraceful mummery, vide Robertson's History of Charles V. vol. i. p. 283.

Pisa, and the "Eteróclyti" at Pesaro. Nor can I allow myself to pass over in silence on the present occasion the Order or Society of Fools, otherwise denominated "Respublica Babinepsis," which was founded towards the middle of the fourteenth century by some Polish noblemen, and took its name from the estate of one Psomka, the principal instigator, near Leublin. Its form was modelled after that of the constitution of Poland; like this, too, it had its king, its council, its chamberlain, its master of the hunt, and various other offices. Whoever made himself ridiculous by any singular and foolish propensity, on him was conferred an appointment befitting it. Thus he, who carried his partiality to the canine species to a ridiculous extreme, was created master of the hunt; whilst another, who constantly boasted of his valorous atchievements, was raised to the dignity of field marshal. No one dared to refuse the acceptance of such a vocation, unless he wished to become a still greater object of ridicule and animadversion than before. This order soon experienced so rapid an increase of numbers that there were few at court who were not members of it. At the same time it was expressly forbidden that any lampooner should be introduced amongst them. The avowed object of this institution, was to prevent the rising generation from the adoption of bad habits and licentious manners; and ridiculous as was its outward form, is not its design at least entitled to our esteem and veneration?

Patent of Creation of the Order of Fools.

"We all, who have hereunto affixed our seals, make known unto all men, and declare, that after full and mature consideration, both on our own behalf and on account of the singular good-will and friendship which we all bear, and will continue to bear towards one another, we have instituted a society of Fools, according to the form and manner hereunto subjoined:

"Be it therefore known, that each member shall wear a fool, either made of silver, or embroidered, on his coat. And such member as shall not daily wear this fool, him shall and may any one of us, as often as he shall see it, punish with a mulct of three old great tournois (livres tournois, about four-pence halfpenny) which three tournois shall be appropriated to the relief of the poor in the Lord!

Further, will we Fools yearly meet, and hold a conventicle and court, and assemble ourselves, to wit at Cleves, every year on the Sunday after Michaelmas day; and no one of us shall depart out of the city, nor mount his horse to quit the place where we may be met together, without previous notice, and his having defrayed that part of the expences of the court which he is bound to bear. And none of us shall remain away on any pretence or for any other reason whatsoever than this, namely, that he is labouring under very great infirmity; excepting moreover those only who may be in a foreign country, and at six days journey from their customary place of residence. If it should happen that any one of the society is at enmity with another, then must the whole society use their utmost endeavours to adjust their differences

differences and reconcile them; and such members and all their abettors shall be excluded from appearing at the court on the Friday morning when it commences its sitting at sun-rise, until it breaks up on the same Friday at sun-set."

"And we will further at the royal court yearly elect one of the members to be king of our society, and six to be counsellors; which king with his six counsellors shall regulate and settle all the concerns of the society, and in particular appoint and fix the court of the ensuing year; they shall also procure, and cause to be procured, all things necessary for the said court, of which they shall keep an exact account. These expences shall be alike both to knights and squires, and a third part more shall fall upon the lords than upon the knights and squires; but the counts shall be subject to a third part more than the lords.

And early on the Tuesday morning (during the period of the court's sitting) all of us members shall go the church of the Holy Virgin at Cleves, to pray for the repose of all those of the society who may have died; and there shall each bring his separate offering.

"And each of us has mutually pledged his good faith, and solemnly engaged to fulfil faithfully, undeviatingly, and inviolably, all things which are above enumerated, &c.

"Done at Cleves, 1381, on the day of St. Cunibert.

H. W. S."

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

REMARKS ON VERSIFICATION.

Sir,

THE theory of association, as applied to subjects of taste, appears to me in no respect more commendable than as it is a system of *toleration*, and directly opposite to those exclusive dogmas of criticism which are the bane as well of sound judgment as of personal gratification. When a person is once convinced that the pleasure received from a production of literature or the fine arts originates in certain ideas or emotions associated with it in the mind, he is prepared to admit that his neighbour's taste and his own may be widely different, yet each of them equally just as far as respects themselves; and he is liberated from the fruitless and perplexing search after an universal standard of taste, and from the eager desire of making proselytes to his own opinions in these matters. It is then enough for him, in judging on the merit of any such production, to consider what it was designed to effect, and how far it has accomplished its purpose. It is true, he may imagine that something else would have answered that purpose better; but this must be upon the supposition that the whole train of associations belonging to it were changed, which, in many cases, he may be sure is not to be effected.

This mode of reasoning is capable of very extensive application; but I shall at present apply it only to one particular subject, that of *versification*,

versification, as it is differently practised in the poetry of different countries. You have favoured your readers, Sir, with some ingenious letters relative to French prosody; and the question has especially been agitated, whether or not the measure of its heroic verse is of the kind termed by the ancients *anapæstic*. It seems to have been taken for granted, that were it really so, it would deserve the imputation thrown upon it by English critics of being ill adapted to sublime and serious topics. But when I enquire for the reason of this opinion, I find no other than the identity of this measure with that of "A cobler there was and he lived in a stall," and other ludicrous and vulgar ballads. That *we* may have formed associations which will always remind us of something low and comic when this strain is sounded in our ears, is indeed possible; but what has that to do with the perceptions of a Frenchman?—and I presume it will not be contended that in writing French verse he is obliged to consult any ears besides those of his own countrymen. It may, perhaps, be said, that the reason why this measure has with us been appropriated to trivial subjects, is because there is something in its flow which *naturally* corresponds with trivial ideas. This, however, is a mere gratuitous assumption, which would not be admitted by one who should have been habituated to attach to it ideas of another class. In reality, all that can be affirmed of any *natural* property of this measure is, that with an easy and melodious succession of syllables, it joins a certain *rapidity*. But this last quality by no means unfits it for the expression of emotions, or the description of imagery, of the serious and elevated kinds. Let it be recited with the tone proper to the subject, and I will venture to affirm that no unprejudiced hearer will find it unsuitable to the *pathetic* in the following lines of Rowe, on his wife's illness.

> To the nymph, my heart's love, ye soft slumbers repair,
> Spread your downy wings o'er her, and make her your care;
> Let me be left restless, mine eyes never close,
> So the sleep that I lose give my dear-one repose.

Of its alliance with the *grand* and *lofty* a striking example has been given by Mr. Montgomery, in his fine ode of "the Ocean." Who would wish a different measure in these couplets?

> Beneath his broad footstep the Ganges is dry,
> And the mountains recoil from the flash of his eye.
>
> The shark hears their shrieks, and ascending to day,
> Demands of the spoiler his share of the prey.

Its adaptation to the *moral* and *philosophical* is sufficiently displayed in Dr. Beattie's well-known and admired poem "The Hermit."

I make it a condition in all these instances that the lines be fairly and properly humoured by the reader according to the import of the words; for nothing is easier than to pervert or degrade the finest passage in poetry by a slovenly or ridiculous manner of recitation. On the other hand, I know not whether the strongest associations of vulgarity

garity in a measure might not be obliterated by a stately and energetic enunciation. Pope has been much ridiculed for his unfortunate stanza in the Ode for St. Cecilia's Day, "Thus song could prevail o'er death and o'er hell;" but I have no doubt that it might be read with good effect, were it not for the burlesque, not in the sound, but in the sense, of "Tho' Fate had fast bound her With Styx nine times round her."

It may be proper here to observe, that the measure we have chosen for our heroic verse, namely, the iambic, is that which the ancients appropriated to the familiar, as being to their perceptions nearest to prose. In fact, nothing can be conceived more monotonous than the strict iambic, if read in a scanning manner; and it would be as easy for a foreigner to throw ridicule upon the

Ti-tum, ti-tum, ti-tum, ti-tum, ti-tum,

of our Drydens and Popes, as for us to laugh at the derry-down of Racine and Voltaire.

To conclude:—Whether the French heroic measure be or be not in actual recitation analogous to the anapæstic verse of the ancients or the English, is to me a superfluous enquiry; since, when I see the natives of that country in raptures with the elevated and pathetic strains of their epic and tragic poets, it is impossible for me to doubt that their verse produces upon them all the effect that verse can be expected to produce, and that it is therefore possessed of as much relative merit as that of any other people. I know, moreover, that, independently of association, no ear but one long habituated to the metrical recitation of any language can acquire an adequate perception of the niceties of its prosody.

On the whole, I do not hesitate to regard the following critical maxim as absolutely irrefragable.—*The versification of any language is to be duly appreciated only by those who have a native's familiarity with that language.*

Yours, &c. CANDIDUS.

SYNONIMIC ELUCIDATIONS CONTINUED.

Gentle. Tame.

Gentle animals are the naturally docile; tame animals are made so by the art of man. The dog, the sheep, the horse are gentle animals; the wolf, the bear, the lion, are sometimes tame.

Gentle means well-born, as in gentleman; tame is etymologically connected with *zaum*, bridle, and with *team*, yoke, or harness; it means broken-in to carry, or draw.

Haughtiness. Disdain.

Haughty is rightly deduced by Dr. Johnson from the French *hautain*, and ought therefore to be spelled without the *gh*. *Hautain* is a derivative of *haut* high, and describes that disposition of mind which stimulates an erect and lofty deportment.

From

From the Latin *dignari*, to worship, and the privative syllable *dis*, derives the French verb *dedaigner*, or the Italian substantive *sdegno*, from one of which comes our *disdain*, which signifies, to withdraw worship, to desist from reverence.

"Haughtiness is founded on the high opinion we entertain of ourselves; disdain on the low opinion we have of others." *Blair.*

Weariness. Fatigue. Lassitude.

Tiredness is an idea common to all these words; the tired horse whose skin is chafed bare, whose hoofs are road-worn, suffers weariness; the tired horse, whose hide has been lashed, whose side has been gored by the spur, suffers fatigue; the tired horse, who while intoxicated with corn and with the passions of the chace, performed prodigies, but who is coy for want of stimulants, suffers lassitude. Wear, tear, and whetting cause weariness, fatigue, and lassitude.

Weariness is derived from *wear*, and means the state of being worn away; it is not applied now to inanimate objects, but Spenser writes, and properly,

His weary waggon to the western vale;

nor is there any grammatical impediment to our calling thread bare clothes, weary.

To fatigue is to pierce with a goad. *Fastigium* meant, 1. the point or needle of a goad or pike, and is the root both of *fatisco* and *fatigo;* 2. a spire, needle, or pyramidal temple, usual on great houses; 3. the blade, or ridge of any house. *Jaculo cervos cursuque fatigat. Quadrupedem ferratâ calce fatigat. Dentem in dente fatigare. Versaque juvencum terga fatigamus hastâ.*

Lassitude rather denotes indirect than direct debility. *Lassus stomachus.* That barrenness which results from over-cropping is called by Columella *lassitudo soli.* Horace describes his merchant *lassus maris.* Where there is lassitude, there was previous exertion.

The soldier is weary of his march, fatigued by frequent orders of removal, and sinks after intemperance into lassitude.

The English verb *to tire* is probably an orthographic variety of *to tear*, which means to lacerate with the teeth; but the English verb *to jade*, if rightly derived by Skinner from *goad*, is the very metaphor of *fatigare* analogously employed.

To abhor. To detest.

To abhor is to start back from; to detest is to bear witness against; he may abhor infidelity who tolerates it; he may detest smuggling who practises it; but the terms are not convertible. A prudent man abhors being in debt; a creditor detests it. The loyalist abhors, the informer detests, treason. There are crimes which it is indecent not to abhor, and which it is indecent to detest.

"The first tendency to any injustice that appears must be suppressed with a shew of wonder and abhorrency in the parents and governors." *Locke on Education.*

Both

"Both armies consisted of christians, to whom nothing is more detestable than shedding of blood." *Hayward.*

Parents find it necessary to abhor what they do not detest; and christians find it necessary to detest what they do not abhor.

What is over valued should be detested; what has any value should not be abhorred.

Accent. Emphasis. Strain. Stress.

All these words denote an increased effort of voice. Accent (which is derived from *cantus*, song) describes that sort of exertion which varies the utterance from low to high, from grave to acute, from flat to sharp, from hoarse to shrill. Emphasis (which is derived from φαινω, to indicate) describes that sort of exertion which varies the utterance from soft to loud, from quick to slow, from faint to marked, from slurring to distinct. Strain is the English word for accent; stress is the English word for emphasis. *Strain* is derived from the Saxon *strenge*, strength, and means a strengthening of the voice: *stress* is the substantive of *to stretch*, which is the intensive of *to stride;* it means, therefore, a stride of voice, which excludes the idea of gradual or musical intonation.

"As the rise and fall of sound prevents monotony, which would give a deadness to the human speech, accent is not improperly called in Diomedes *anima vocis.*" *Foster on Accent and Quantity.*

"It may be remarked that accent, though closely united with quantity, is not only distinct from it, but in the formation of the voice really antecedent to it. The pitch, or height of the note is taken first, and then the continuance of it is settled; by the former of these the accent is determined, by the latter the quantity."

Foster on Accent and Quantity.

"Accent, in the Greek names and usage, seems to have regarded the tune of the voice; the acute accent raising the voice in some certain syllables to a higher or more acute pitch or tone, and the grave depressing it lower." *Holder.*

"Emphasis not so much regards the time as a certain grandeur, whereby some letter, syllable, word, or sentence is rendered more remarkable than the rest, by a more vigorous pronunciation, and a longer stay upon it." *Holder.*

"This English system, which has distinguished accent, quantity, and emphasis by separate marks, shews that the emphasis or poize, divided into the heavy and the light, is the most important and the most characteristic in our language." *Steele's Prosodia Rationalis.*

"Though long and short, or short and long syllables may sometimes form the rhythm of English verse, yet that which invariably and essentially forms it, is the interchange of emphatic and non-emphatic syllables." *Beattie's Theory of Language.*

The

The lark sings so out of tune
Straining harsh discords. *Shakspeare.*

Their heavenly harps a lower strain began. *Dryden.*

"Our words flow from us in a smooth continued stream, without those strainings of the voice, motions of body, and majesty of the hand which are so much celebrated in the orators of Greece and Rome." *Atterbury.*

"Throughout the Gothic dialects the stress falls on the radical syllable."

Many English words, such as *subject*, *contract*, are substantives, when the stress is laid on the first syllable, and verbs when it is laid on the second.

"How very little stress is to be laid upon the precedents they bring." *Lesley.*

The most common faults respecting emphasis are, laying so strong an emphasis on one word as to leave no power of giving a particular force to other words, which though not equally, are in a certain degree emphatical, and placing the greatest stress on conjunctive particles and other words of secondary importance.

Enfield on Elocution.

Envoy. Resident. Plenipotentiary. Ambassador.

An Envoy is one sent; a Resident one who resides on behalf of his country in a foreign state; a Plenipotentiary is one sent with full powers; an Ambassador (low Latin *ambasciator*, waiter) is one resident about the highest authorities. Avowed deputation from a government into a foreign state for public purposes is the idea common to all these offices: an envoy and a plenipotentiary are occasional delegates, a resident and an ambassador are permanent functionaries. An envoy and a resident are subordinate employments; a plenipotentiary and an ambassador imply the highest representative rank. Pope Julius II. caused his master of the ceremonies in 1504 to publish a list of the European sovereigns, in the order of precedence assigned to their ambassadors at the court of Rome. 1. The emperor of Germany. 2. The king of France. 3. The king of Spain. 4. The king of Portugal. 5. The king of England. 6. The king of Sicily. 7. The king of Poland. 8. The king of Denmark.

Surprized. Astonished. Amazed. Confounded.

I am surprized at what is unexpected; I am astonished by what is striking; I am amazed in what is incomprehensible; I am confounded with what is embarrassing.

Surprized means *overtaken*; astonished means *thunderstruck*; amazed means *lost in a labyrinth*; and confounded means *melted together*. For want of bearing in mind the original signification of these words, our writers frequently annex improper prepositions, such as are inconsistent with the metaphor employed.

Capacity

Capacity. Ability.

Capacity is the gift of nature, ability of education; the one answers to that quick retentive comprehensive perception which may be born with the organs of sense; the other, to that dexterity in the use of them which is acquired by experiment, comparison, and tradition. Capacity is requisite to devise, and ability to execute a great enterprize.

> For they that most and greatest things embrace
> Enlarge thereby their mind's capacity.

Burke has a mind more copiously, Fox more selectly stored; Burke has most of the imaginative, Fox most of the reasoning faculty; Burke has greater ability, Fox greater capacity.

Pride. Vanity.

Pride, says Blair, makes us esteem ourselves; vanity makes us desire the esteem of others. It is just to say as Dean Swift has done, that a man is too proud to be vain. Is Blair, in the second instance, right?

Pride means *swollenness*, moral tumidity. He who makes himself bigger than is usual or natural to him, who is great in his own conceit, displays pride. Pride is in fact the expression of self-esteem.

But what has vanity to do with the esteem of others? Vanity means *emptiness*, or, being used only in a metaphorical, abstract, or moral sense, may be defined empty-mindedness. Are the emptiest minds most covetous of the esteem of others? Surely not. They are often covetous of noisy, indiscriminate, present applause, and snatch at glory without appreciating the nature of the effort; but this is an accident, not the essence of empty-mindedness. When the author of Ecclesiastes writes, "The work that is wrought under the sun is grievous unto me, for all is vanity and vexation of spirit," he describes a feeling of annoy by the word vanity. Now it is necessarily characteristic of emptiness of mind to be very liable to tedium. That yawning craving appetite for amusement, which turns toward every one and every thing for gratification, is the essential feature of vanity. Milton has well chosen his epithet—Wandering Vanity. "Pride is more common among men, vanity among women."

The old writers apply the word more defensibly than the moderns.

"Here I may well shew the vanity of that which is reported in the story of Walsingham." *Sir J. Davies.*

"The ground-work thereof is true, however they, through vanity, do thereupon build many forged histories of their own antiquity." *Spencer.*

In these passages vanity is, I think, not used for vain-gloriousness, but for emptiness of fact, absence of information, lack of truth.

The misuse of the word began early, and is authorized by our best writers. Shakespeare writes—

"I must bestow upon the eyes of this young couple some vanity of mine art."

Here it may be contended, that the unsubstantial fabric of a vision, the empty pageantry of magic, may fitly be called a vanity; but the speaker is evidently announcing the splendor of his exhibition. Perhaps Shakespeare wrote vauntry, from the French *vanterie*, a thing to be boasted of.

Milton still more inexcusably says, that "Sin with vanity had fill'd the works of men." This is a bull, an unperceived contradiction in terms, an expression strictly nonsensical—filling with emptiness—but it is kept in countenance by Swift's analogous metaphor—

Vanity's the food of fools;

as if emptiness could be swallowed.

(To be continued.)

For the Athenæum.

ACCOUNT OF PART OF THE SOUTH-WEST SIDE OF NEW CALEDONIA,

From a Voyage performed in 1803 *in the Ship Buffalo from New South Wales.*

NEW Caledonia is a large island in the Southern Pacific Ocean, first discovered and so named by Captain Cook in his second voyage round the world. That navigator ranged along its north-eastern coast, but no part of the opposite side, where the Buffalo anchored, had been previously explored or seen by European navigators, if we except a cursory view of the northern part by d'Entrecasteaux, who, on his voyage in search of the unfortunate La Pérouse, anchored on the outside of the reef, which, at that part, barred him from a nearer approach to or examination of the country. The following account, therefore, adds another link to the general chain of geographical knowledge which every day is perfecting, and is extracted from a series of interesting journals made during several years spent in distant voyages, and of which it is to be hoped the fair authoress (for it is a lady whose observations are here recorded) will at some early period be induced to permit the entire publication, though her diffidence will not at present permit her to appear before the public in the appalling shape of a quarto.

On Sunday, the 15th May, 1803, we descried the extensive reef mentioned by Capt. Cook as lying off the south-east end of New Caledonia. During that and the following day we ran before a fresh breeze along the reef, which appeared to bind all the western side of this extensive island. This part of it being wholly unexplored and unknown, a very high mountain which we passed on the 16th received the name of Mount Buffalo.

On Tuesday, the 17th, the master was sent to examine an opening in the reef. On his return he reported that it formed a safe entrance

a very extensive harbour. The following day it blew a strong gale, and we stood off and on the entrance of the harbour. It continued blowing with great violence till the afternoon of the next day, when we bore up, and passed through the opening in the reef, and at six P. M. we anchored in the harbour in four fathoms water. The opening in the reef was afterwards ascertained to be one mile broad, and the distance from that to the entrance of the harbour is four miles, a deep channel and sandy bottom. The extent of the harbour, which could not be less than eighteen or twenty miles, struck us with astonishment, particularly after entering it through such a narrow passage.

A number of islands, of various forms and sizes, diversified this sheet of water. The whole was encircled by chains of stupendous mountains, rising one behind the other as far as the eye could reach, and many of the tops of which were hid by the clouds. The vallies between them were covered with trees, and the verdure they exhibited from their depth and distance assumed a sombre shade, whilst lighter tints and various shrubs that ornamented the bases of the islands were softened and improved by the setting sun. The whole was a solemn, silent, and majestic scene, and impressed the mind with the grandeur of sequestered nature, and with feelings of tranquil enjoyment.

Capt. K. came into the harbour for the purpose of watering (the number of passengers and stock on board having consumed a great quantity of water in our passage to Norfolk Island) but finding it so eligible a one, he took a survey of it, which detained us a fortnight beyond the intended time of our departure.

At day-light the next morning a canoe was seen paddling towards a small island that lay about a mile from the ship, when two of the natives got out of it and seated themselves on a rock; after gazing at the ship for some time, one of them stood up and repeatedly called out *Cooe*, at which we were not a little surprised, it being the same word which the natives of Port Jackson make use of as a friendly invitation. Being answered from the ship, they returned to their canoe, and were soon joined by two others. They approached with great caution, but at length came under the stern. There were five men in one of the canoes, and three in each of the others. They were tall, stout, good-looking men, with high foreheads, and chearful open countenances, and in colour nearly black. Some printed cottons and a few shewy articles being given them from the cabin window, they gave some fine mullet and some yams in return, but could not be prevailed upon to come on board, till a small piece of red serge was held up to view from one of the gangways, which they were so eager to possess, that three of them ventured up the side of the ship without further hesitation. One of these we supposed, from his peculiar head-dress, to be a chief. This was a sort of cap, made of very fine bark, projecting very far from the head behind, bound tight round it with a fillet, and adorned on one side by a bunch of feathers, which appeared to be heron's. He was of a lighter colour, and taller than the others. A lady on board the Buffalo tied a broad pink sash across his shoulders,

shoulders, which pleased him so much that he sat by her all the time they were at breakfast, of which, however, he could not be prevailed on to partake.

The pinnace and cutter, with the first lieutenant and the master, were sent to look for a watering-place, but returned in the evening without having found any. In attempting to land they had a skirmish with the natives, in which one of the crew of the pinnace was speared in the thigh. The marines fired some small shot amongst the natives, which dispersed them so rapidly that our people were not able to ascertain whether any of them were wounded by it.

Early on the ensuing morning the boats were again sent in search of water. Whilst we were at breakfast a number of canoes came round the ship, containing about fifty natives. The man who had thrown the spear at the seaman the day before was observed in one of these canoes, sitting very thoughtful and dejected. When his canoe came under the gangway, he caught hold of the rope, and was up the side of the ship in an instant, when he made us to understand that he wished to see the man he had speared. It being only a flesh wound, the man was able to come on deck to him. When the dressing was taken off for him to see the wound, he seemed much agitated, wept exceedingly, and offered him yams, fishing-nets, and a variety of other things as peace-offerings. It is almost needless to say, that with a British tar this first concession on the part of the offender obliterated every trace of resentment.

As hostilities had commenced so early, we had feared very unpleasant consequences, and we were proportionably satisfied with what we then hoped was their speedy termination in so amicable a manner. The greatest confidence now appeared to take place, and a barter commenced much to our advantage. Two very fine large green turtle were given to two of the seamen for the sleeve of an old blue jacket cut in two. At noon the boats returned, without having met with any molestation, and having discovered a lagoon of fine soft water.

On Saturday, the 21st, several canoes of a considerably larger size than any we had yet seen came off to us. The natives who came in them were of a larger make than those who had visited us before. Their projecting brows and ferocious countenances gave an idea of cannibalism; and they did not appear to be of the same race, or to inhabit the same part of the country with those that have already been described.

The pinnace returned from the watering-place with the first lieutenant, by whom an account was received of a disturbance that had taken place on shore. A party of the natives, who were standing on the beach when our men landed, had cut away a part of the boat's painter, and when it was demanded back, had given it up with great reluctance, brandishing their spears and throwing themselves into menacing attitudes; when the boat put off from the shore several spears were thrown. A short time after the return of the pinnace, a much larger canoe than those alongside, having thirteen natives in it, came off to the ship, and the first lieutenant immediately pointed out two of the men

men in it who had been most active in the late attack. One of them held the very spear that had first been thrown, but which fell short of the boat. This circumstance was known from the spear being a white one, whilst all the others were black. One of the natives from this canoe having come on board, he was given to understand that the white spear must be given up. He communicated this to his countrymen without leaving the ship; but as they persisted in refusing, in order to intimidate them, and to deter them from further hostilities, one of the large guns on the quarter-deck was fired over their heads. At this they appeared more enraged than frightened. Having paddled off to a little distance, one of them, who we supposed was a chief, harangued them for some time, distorting his features, and making strange gestures. They appeared to pay great attention to what he said, and at the conclusion of his speech they all set up a loud shout. This was considered as a war-hoop, and a shower of spears was expected to follow. Capt. K. however, presenting a musquet to the breast of the native who was on board, threatened to fire it, unless he caused the white spear to be given up. He was permitted to return to the canoe to effect this, which, after some further altercation, was accomplished. Soon after this they began to paddle off, all of them exclaiming in the same words, and pointing to the shore, but whether it was a threat of revenge, or an offer of reconciliation, which they uttered, we were then at a loss to determine. The next morning, however, proved it to be the latter, for several of the same canoes, and some other large ones, containing ten or twelve natives in each, slowly advanced towards the ship. The men in them held their fingers to their ears, to intimate that they were afraid of or annoyed by the noise of the great gun which they had heard the preceding day. Their heads were decorated with green boughs, which we concluded was a symbol of peace. As soon as they reached the ship's side, the white spear was returned to them, and they immediately began as formerly to barter their spears and *bagos* for trifles. Several of them came on board, and two of them had their beards shaved off.

Bagos is the name they give to their clubs, which are of a large size, of various forms and materials. They shew great ingenuity in the manufacture of these weapons, considering they have no implements but sharp stones or shells.

In the afternoon of that day a little excursion was planned by the officers and passengers to a beautiful little island about a mile from the ship, but a very heavy rain coming on just as they had landed, spoiled their expected amusement. In the evening a double canoe, which was the first of the kind that had been seen, came alongside, with sundry articles to barter. Several of the men who had paid us a visit on the 19th were in her. A complete platform was formed across the two hulls, on which were their fires. The most curious thing about her were two round holes in a plank fixed at each end of the platform, through each of which a paddle was introduced, with which they sculled in a perpendicular direction.

(To be continued.)

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

REMARKS ON THE LETTER ON INEQUALITY OF CONDITIONS.

Sir,

"WHATEVER is, is right," is a splendid maxim in theology, and which cannot be controverted by one who admits a supreme ruler of the universe, possessed of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness. But however true as a general position, its application in particular instances to account for the existence of what we cannot help regarding as *evils*, is liable to much speculative difficulty, and perhaps to some practical inconvenience. If a zealous vindicator of the ways of providence takes upon himself to set forth in striking colours the good educed from seeming evil, there may be a danger of discouraging those efforts for the removal of evil in which human wisdom and industry seem most laudably employed. The pious mahometan, who is convinced that the plague is a kind dispensation of providence to save half the human species from the worse death by famine, is not likely to use means for stopping its ravages. The same may be said with respect to war, and a number of other evils natural and moral, all of which an ingenious reasoner may shew to be attended with some beneficial effects, and may argue that they are therefore within the plan of providence. But whatever that plan may be (of which we can only form conjectures) it is, I conceive, the business of man to correct, as far as lies in his power, every thing which appears to him in the shape of evil; nor should he readily admit the notion that one evil is a necessary remedy for another.

These considerations have prevented me from entirely coinciding in opinion with the eloquent and ingenious writer of the paper on the Inequality of Conditions inserted in one of your late numbers, though it contains much that I admire and approve. I think the investigation of those causes which produce a levelling effect in society equally just and acute; but I feel reluctant to admit some of the practical inferences deduced from it. No one is more sensible than myself of the grasping, insatiable, and unfeeling nature of exorbitant wealth; and no one views with more detestation the conduct of those who, with the exterior of religion and the ostentation of humanity, are ever ready to use all the means in their power for spreading the flames of war, and involving whole nations in calamity, for the sake of some trifling advantage, not to their country, not even to commerce in general, but to their own particular branch of traffic. To see their schemes defeated by a wise and equitable administration would afford me much pleasure, nor should I be sorry to observe their wealth melting away under the burdens and losses which their selfish policy has created. But I confess I view with no satisfaction the defalcations of their overgrown property made by fraud and pillage. A corruption of morals in the lower classes appears to me an evil which no occasional good can compensate; and it is not from emolument acquired in that

way

way that I should expect any beneficial operation towards redressing the inequality with which the good things of life are distributed. Burns's poor *mousie*, that frugally maintained a family with the gleanings of a full harvest, is, I believe, a very inexact comparison for the *lumper* and *mud-lark*, whose depredations imply an irregular and savage mode of life, and who are probably not less the pests of their own families than of the public. I am not prepared, therefore, to allow that even *cæteris manentibus* a strong principle of honesty in the inferior orders of society would be an evil; for their gains in that case, if less considerable, would be more regular, and more likely to accumulate, so as in time to put them in the way of improving their condition. Manufactures and commerce cannot be carried on with success, amid rivalries and competitions, without great encouragements as well to the labouring hand as to the directing head; and in fact, the services of the lower classes are always most amply paid where there is the greatest opportunity of raising large fortunes. I do not regard it as a violation of honesty for the poor to take every allowable method of enhancing the comparative valuation of their services. This is, indeed, a part of "the secret combination of the poor against the rich," which your correspondent enumerates among the levelling causes, but justly does not include among *vices*. If nature has said any thing on this head, it is, that the man who can do for another what that person cannot or will not do for himself, has a right to make the best bargain for his service that he is able to do. Law, indeed, has rendered the combinations of workmen criminal, whilst those of masters are permitted; but in this case it appears to have deviated from equity. I would not pronounce harshly upon what are usually called *impositions* when practised by the low against the high; that is, making advantage of the occasional necessities of the latter; provided they stop short of actual fraud. But whenever the barriers of *meum* and *tuum* are broken down—whenever the poor man takes what he is sensible is not *his own* but *another's* (and he never mistakes in this point) then a depravation of moral character commences, which is the greatest of evils to himself, and surely cannot be reckoned among the remedial processes employed by providence, if the views of providence and of man have any thing in common.

On the whole, I think your correspondent highly laudable in the attempt to prove to the rich, that they themselves are the causes of much that they complain of in the poor; that it ought to be their aim to soften and alleviate the inequality of conditions by approximation, rather than aggravate it by the exertions of power; and that as long as they continue to monopolize the advantages of life, vice, among other things, will rise up to redress the injury. But this vice appears to me an *additional* evil, which all means should be employed to combat, even though the state of things in other respects remain the same.

Yours, &c. DEMOPHILUS.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

APOCRYPHA RE D IN CHURCHES.

Sir,

IN perusing a very able and highly entertaining work recently published, entitled, "Letters from England, by Don Manuel Alvarez Espriella," an intelligent Spaniard, who lately travelled over the greater part of this country, my attention was attracted by an error into which the translator has, probably through inadvertence, fallen. The Spaniard, like a true son of his church, is discussing (Vol iii. Let. 54.) the evils likely to result from the general use of the scripture in the vernacular tongue; and, in this connection, cites from Bellarmine an anecdote of a good woman, who very naturally took umbrage at hearing the libel on her sex, contained in the twenty-fifth chapter of Ecclesiasticus, read by the officiating minister in the public service of the church of England. To this anecdote the translator has subjoined the following note:—"Bellarmine, unluckily for this story, did not know, and his catholic eye-witness did not recollect, that *the Apocrypha is never read in our churches.*" It is to this latter assertion, Sir, that I object as not strictly accurate. If the writer will only be at the pains to refer to the sixth article of the church of England, he will find that the Apocrypha is by law appointed to be read in its public service; not, indeed, because it is regarded by her as canonical, or as conclusive in respect to any point of doctrine, but "for example of life and instruction of manners." In the preface, prefixed to the present Common Prayer by the Bishops who were appointed by royal authority to revise it, these reverend prelates state, that the book, as altered by them, is, with regard to the reading of the scriptures, "more profitable (than the former Liturgy) because many things are left out, whereof some are untrue, some uncertain, some vain and superstitious, and nothing is ordained to be read but the very pure word of God, the holy scriptures, or *that which is agreeable to the same.*" On referring to the table of lessons, ordained in this their new or altered work, we learn that what they mean by the things that are "agreeable to the word of God," consist of the greater part of the Apocrypha, and even some passages which are certainly not very well calculated "for example of life or instruction of manners." The twenty-fifth chapter of Ecclesiasticus is appointed in the table to be read on the sixth of November, but only as far as the thirteenth verse, the rubrick not enjoining the reading of the remainder, in which the passage referred to in Bellarmine's anecdote is contained. As, however, Bellarmine's story must have arisen previous to the revision in the time of James I. by which this portion came to be omitted, there is nothing in the account, hating its extravagance, which can go to disprove its authenticity; for antecedently to the reign of James the first, the *whole* of the Apocrypha stood in the order of the lessons to be read in the public services of our churches.

I offer

I offer these observations with no invidious design of depreciating the value of the work in question; on the contrary, my only wish is to set the translator right in a trifling mistake, which he may hereafter correct; anticipating, as I do, from its merit, that the publication with which he has favoured us will soon acquire a just and well-earned popularity.

I am, Sir, yours, &c. S. S.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS ON SOME POPULAR SUPERSTITIONS

Noticed in a former Number.

THE several wonderful relations contained in the "Antidote against Atheism" (the first work in the collection of Dr. Henry More's philosophical writings, printed at London 1642, to which I formerly alluded) form as curious and interesting a body of "Popular Superstitions" as can any where be met with. I shall at present content myself with mentioning the heads only of most of these extraordinary stories, intending to be more particular as to the two concluding ones, which are connected with the strange belief in "Vampyres."

The second chapter contains the following articles.

1. The moving of a *sieve* by a charm. Coskinomancy.
2. A magical case of an horse.
3. The charming of serpents.
4. A strange example of one death-stricken as he walked the street.
5. A story of a sudden wind that had like to have thrown down the gallows at the hanging of two witches.

The following, among others, are the contents of the third.

1. That winds and tempests are raised upon mere ceremonies or forms of words.
2. Examples of the power of devils over meteors, rain, or thunder.
3. Margaret Warine discharged upon an oak at a thunder-clap.
4. Amantius and Rotarius cast headlong out of a cloud upon a house-top.
5. The witch of Constance seen by shepheards to ride through the aire.
6. The most remarkable exploits of the devil of Macon.

Chap. 4.

1. The supernatural effects observed in the bewitched children of Mr. Throgmorton and Mrs. Muschamp.
2. The possession of the religious virgins of Werts.
3. Story of the famous abbatess, Magdalena Crucia, her useless and ludicrous miracles. That she was a sorceress, and married to the

devil. That her story is neither the figment of priests, nor delusion of melancholy.

Chap. 5.

1. Vomitings of pins, nails, needles, glass, iron, haire, &c. &c.
2. Thirty possessed children of Amsterdam.
3. Of a maid demoniack speaking Greek.

Chap. 6.

1. The apparition Eckerken.
2. Story of the pied piper.
3. Of the imps and witches. Whether these old women be guilty of so much dotage as the atheist fancies them. That such things pass between them and their imps as cannot be imputed to melancholy. Examination of John Winnick, of Molesworth.
4. The reason of sealing covenants with the devil.

Chap. 7.

Story of Ann Bodenham, with all the circumstances of her conjurations, and of the contract entered into between Anne Styles and the devil.

As for John Winnick's examination, that is something to our purpose. It appears that this was a poor labouring man, who lost his purse with 7s. in it, and that while he was "banning, and cursing, and raging" about it in a barn, the devil appeared to him "in likeness of a bear, but of the size of a coney, and promised to restore him his purse; whereupon he fell down on his knees, and most thoughtlessly as well as impiously cried, "My Lord and God I thank you." Some time afterwards the bear-devil came again, in company with a white-cat-devil and a coney-devil, whom, at the command of the bear-devil, he worshipped also. The bear-devil then told him he must have his soul when he died, *and must suck some blood of his body*, to seal the covenant. "To all which he agreed; and so the bear-spirit, leaping up to his shoulder, *pricked him on the head, and thence took blood.*" And ever after all three "came to him once every twenty-four hours *and sucked on his body*, where the marks are still found. And this they did for twenty-nine years together."

We now come to the relations which I more particularly wished to notice.

The first of these is that of a "Shoe-maker of Breslaw," who on a Friday, betimes in the morning, in the further parts of his house, where there was a garden adjoining, cut his own throat with a shoemaker's knife."

The family gave out that he died of an apoplexy, and "got him washed, and laid linens so handsomely about him, that even they that saw him afterwards had no suspicion but that he did die of that disease; and so he had an honest burial, with a funeral sermon, and other circumstances becoming one of his rank and reputation."

Six weeks, however, had not elapsed, before rumours of the fact were by some means or other spread about the town. The magistracy thought it necessary to have the body taken up and examined, but the widow

widow violently opposed it; and, though at last she confessed the truth, yet by her persuasions and entreaties, wrought so on the feelings of the council, that many seemed inclined to spare her the shame and mortification of such an exposure.

"But, while these things were in agitation, to the astonishment of the inhabitants of the place, there appears a *spectrum* in the exact shape and habit of the deceased, and that not only in the night but at midday. Those that were asleep it terrified with horrible visions; those that were waking it would strike, pull, or press, lying heavy upon them like an *Ephialtes;* so that there were perpetual complaints every morning of their last night's rest throughout the town."

Still the friends of the deceased were more and more urgent in their desires to have the affair hushed up, and to prevent the threatened exposure.

"But while by these means the business was still protracted, there were such stirs and tumults in the town, that they are hardly to be described; for, no sooner did the sun hide his head, but this *spectrum* would be sure to appear, so that every body was fain to look about him and stand upon his guard—a sore trouble to those whom the labours of the day made more sensible of the want of rest in the night."

Then follows a more particular account of the freaks of this spectrum, for which I refer the reader to the book.

"In brief, he was so troublesome, that the people were ready to forsake their houses and seek other dwellings, and the magistrates so awakened at their perpetual complaints of him, that at last they resolved, the president agreeing, to dig up the body.

"He had lain in the ground near eight months, from Sept. 22, 1591, to April 18, 1592. When he was digged up, which was in the presence of the magistracy of the town, his body was found entire, not at all putrid, no ill smell about him, saving the mustiness of the grave clothes, his joints limber and flexible as in those that are alive, his skin only flaccid, but a more fresh grown in the room of it, the wound in his throat gaping, but no gear nor corruption in it; there was also observed a magical mark in the great toe of his right foot, viz. an excrescency in the form of a rose.

"His body was kept out of the earth from the 18th to the 24th; at what time many both of the same town and others came daily to view him.

"These unquiet stirs did not cease for all this, which they after attempted to appease by burying the corpse under the gallows, but in vain, for they were as much as ever, if not more, he now not sparing his own family, insomuch that the widow at last went herself to the magistrate," and gave up the whole direction of the business to him.

"Wherefore, on the 7th of May he was again digged up, and it was observed that he was grown more sensibly fleshy since his last interment. To be short, they cut off the head, arms, and legs of the corpse, and opening his back, took out the heart, which was as fresh and

and entire as in a calf newly killed. These, together with his body, they put on a pile of wood, and burnt them to ashes (which they carefully sweeping together and putting into a sack, that none might get them for wicked uses) poured them into the river, after which the *spectrum* was never seen more."

We should not omit that the same thing "also happened in his maid that died after him, who appeared within eight days after her death to her fellow-servant, and lay so heavy upon her, that she brought upon her a great swelling of her eyes."

She also played several other pranks too tedious to mention, but "at last, her body being digged up and burned, the apparition was never seen more."

The second story is of one "Johannes Cuntius," a citizen of Pentsch, in Silesia, "near 60 years of age, and one of the aldermen of that town, very fair in his carriage, and unblameable to men's thinking, in the whole course of his life." This worthy gentleman, having been invited one night by the mayor to supper, got leave first to go home about some business, leaving this sentence behind him, "*It's good to be merry while we may, for mischiefs grow up fast enough daily.*"

The Doctor then proceeds to relate, that going into his stable he received a kick from one of his horses, "being mad and metalsome," after which he cried out "wo is me, how do I burn and am all on a fire!" He then fell sick in body and afflicted in mind, and often, while in his bed, deplored the sins of his past life, which he used to say "were utterly unpardonable." He died, however, without confession.

"He gave up the ghost about the third hour of the night, at what time a black cat, opening the casement with her nails, ran to his bed, and violently scratched his face and the bolster, as if she endeavoured by force to remove him out of the place where he lay. But the cat afterwards suddenly was gone, and she was no sooner gone than he breathed his last."

A "fair tale was made to the pastor of the parish," and Cuntius buried accordingly on the right side of the altar. A violent tempest arose immediately on his death, but as soon as he was interred all was calm.

"He had not been dead a day or two, but several rumours were spread in the town of a *Spiritus incubus*, or *Ephialtes*, in the shape of Cuntius, that would have forced a woman. This happened before he was buried. After his burial, the same *spectre* awakened one that was sleeping in his dining-room, saying, "*I can scarce with-hold myself from beating thee to death.*" The voice was the voice of Cuntius."

Like the Shoe-maker of Breslaw, he played an infinite number of other pranks, as "appearing to a gossip of his in behalf of his child," "his miserable usage of the parson of the parish and his family," "galloping up and down like a wanton horse in the court of his house," "bruising of the body of a child of a certain smith's, and making his bones so soft that you might wrap the corps on heaps like a glove,"

a glove," "miserably tugging all night with a Jew," "his dreadful accosting of a waggoner," "his drinking up the milk in the milk-bowls, and flinging dung into them," "his defiling the water in the font and fouling the altar-cloth on the side nearest his grave with dirty bloody spots," "sucking dry the cows, and tying their tails like the tail of an horse," "looking out of the window of a low tower and suddenly changing himself into the form of a long staff," "pelting one of the women that washed his corpse," "attempting to *kiss* another who, excusing herself, and saying, *My Cuntius, thou seest how old, wrinckled, and deformed I am, and how unfit for these kind of sports*, he suddenly set up a loud laughter and vanished.

"We will adde one passage more that is a little remarkable. His grave-stone was turned of one side, shelving, and there were several holes in the earth, about the bigness of mouse-holes, that went down to his coffin, which, however they were filled up and made plain over night, yet they were sure to be laid open the next morning."

The unhappy town suffered greatly by these strange proceedings. "None would lodge in it, trade decayed, and the citizens were impoverished."

"To be short, therefore, finding no rest, nor being able to excogitate any better remedy, they dug up Cuntius's body, with several others buried both before and after him. But those both after and before were so putrified and rotten, their skulls broken, and the sutures of them gaping, that they were not to be known. But it was quite otherwise in Cuntius; his skin was tender and florid, his joynts not at all stiff, but limber and moveable, and a staff being put into his hand, he grasped it with his fingers very fast; his eyes also of themselves would be one time open and another time shut; they opened a vein in his leg, and the blood sprang out as fresh as in the living; his nose was entire and full, not sharp, as in those that are ghastly, sick, or quite dead; and yet Cuntius his body had lien in the grave from Feb. 8 to July 20, which is almost half a year."

"It was easily discernible where the fault lay." Judges were constituted and sentence pronounced on the carcase. "Whereupon there were masons provided to make a hole in the wall near the altar to get the body through, which being pulled at with a rope, it was so exceeding heavy that the rope broke and they could scarce stir him." At last they got him on the cart. It happened that the very horse which had kicked this wicked alderman was appointed to draw his body; but, though "a lusty-bodied jade," "it put him to it so, that he was ready to fall down ever and anon, quite out of breath with so intolerable a load." Two men, nevertheless, soon drew the cart with ease.

"His body, when brought to the fire, proved as unwilling to be burnt as before to be drawn, so that the executioner was fain with hooks to pull him out and cut him to pieces to make him burn; which while he did, the blood was found so pure and spirituous, that it spurted into his face as he cut him; but at last, not without the expence of two hundred and sixteen great billets, all was turned into ashes,

ashes, which they carefully sweeping together, as in the foregoing story, and casting them into the river, the *spectre* never more appeared."

"I must confess," justly concludes our learned Doctor, "I am slow-witted myself, that I cannot so much as imagine what the atheist will excogitate for a subterfuge or hiding-place from so plain and evident convictions."

The remaining chapters of this curious performance have, among others, the following heads:

1. Nocturnal conventicles of witches. Two examples thereof.
2. The piping of John of Lembach to a conventicle of witches.
3. Dancing of men, women, and cloven-footed satyrs at mid-day.
4. John Michael's dumb music on his crooked staff from the bough of an oak at that antick dancing.
5. Impress of a circle with cloven feet in it on the ground where they danced.*
6. Of fairy circles, &c. &c. &c.

In Wolff's Memorabilia (a book to which I have already referred) may be found another grave relation to the same effect. "In the year 1567, in Trawtenau, a town of Bohemia, one Stephen Hubener, who had spent his life in accumulating riches and building magnificent houses, to the admiration of all, fell sick and died, and was buried with great pomp; but, soon after his burial, his body rose again and attacked his fellow citizens, falling upon them, and pressing them so heavily, that many died; but some others recovering from the disorder occasioned by such rough treatment, all confessed that they had been pressed by the body of that sick man, dressed in the same clothes that he had worn while living.

"The magistracy of the place at last ordered the body to be dug up out of the vault; and, though it had lain there twenty weeks, yet they found it still uncorrupted, and with as great a degree of corpulence as is usual in healthy and well-fed persons. The executioner was ordered to take it to the usual place of execution for malefactors, where he beheaded it and cut out the heart, when blood flowed from it just as it could have done from a person that instant killed. It was then laid on a pile of wood and burnt to ashes in the presence of a great concourse of people, and never appeared afterwards to molest the inhabitants of Trawtenau." *Wolfii Mem.* tom. 2. p. 926.

In the same book I have since found an additional instance to those I before mentioned, of crosses and other signs from heaven. "In the year 1503 there fell in higher Alsace, at Nuremberg, Ratisbon, Landshut,

* I recollect a similar superstition in the fields on which now stand the streets around Tavistock-square. There were several marks there in the grass, which the people believed to be the footsteps of the devil, who had passed that way to carry off to hell with him two sinners of brothers who were fighting a duel. The grass would never afterwards grow in the pits he made with his cloven foot.

shut, and elsewhere, crosses on the garments of men, but oftener of women, on account, as I guess, of their horrible pride, luxury, avarice, homicides, civil wars, disobedience to the precepts of holy church, and other vices. They were of a brown colour tending to red, and those who endeavoured to efface them were assaulted by snakes which twisted themselves round their necks and entered their mouths. In the same manner at Bamberg, Egra, Hoff, Culmbach, in Misnia, Bohemia, and almost throughout the Roman empire, the same crosses were seen on the garments of men, of various forms, according to all the forms of Christ's passion."

I have, since writing my former paper on Popular Superstitions, unexpectedly discovered a solution of these curious fictions. They are noticed by Mr. Coxe, in his late "History of the House of Austria." The emperor Maximilian was, about the beginning of the sixteenth century, full of his romantic project for a new crusade and the conquest of the Turkish empire; and, in order to rouse the enthusiasm of the German nobles, he announced to them "various prodigies, which he held forth as proofs of the immediate interference of heaven."

In a circular letter addressed to the German States, he notices, among others, the portents which I have been describing, which, he says, "does not indeed denote that the Germans have been peculiarly distinguished for guilt, but rather that they should set the example to the rest of the world, by being the first to undertake a crusade against the infidels."

Thus, then, is the whole mystery accounted for; and the right reverend bishop von Hoorn was clearly only an agent of the emperor Maximilian in his preposterous inventions.

The circumstances, however, obtained very general credit, and are mentioned by Picus Mirandula, in a poem written expressly on the subject, where "he describes the fanciful marks in spirited" but not very metrical "verse"

> "Hic demissa recens populi mysteria mirum
> Attoniti inspectant homines, ac inania passim
> Inscribunt puro delapsa insignia cœlo
> Sanguinolenta crucis: clari memoranda triumphi
> Effigies late spectantur, spongia, flagra
> Visuntur, tunica inconsutilis intima, clavi
> Cernuntur, multo madefacti sanguine, telum
> Quod sacram sævo discreverat impete costam
> Pingitur, excuditur crista spectabilis ales;
> Ter geminique micant tali, quos inclyta Christi
> Jecerat innocui sortitus tegmina miles.
> Non ignota cano, Cæsar monstravit, et ipsi
> Vidimus, in numeros prompsit Germania testes."

See Coxe's Hist. of Austria, vol. i. p. 371.

ARMINIUS.

OBSERVATIONS ON SHALL AND WILL.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

THE various writers on English grammar have scarcely explained, with sufficient precision, the proper use of the verbs *shall* and *will*, with the preterites *should* and *would*. Many persons consider the just application of these verbs as a sort of *shiboleth*, a test of a true-born Englishman, for which no rule can be given, and which no foreigners, not even our fellow-subjects of Scotland and Ireland, can ever learn. The latter is undeniable, and it is equally true that an Englishman, however uneducated, will never, except corrupted by an intercourse with strangers, commit an error in this respect. Nevertheless, before we indulge in triumph over other people, it becomes us to give, if possible, a reason for our own conduct; nor ought any reproach to fall on those who, in learning a language, err on a point concerning which no rule can be given.

Allow me therefore to suggest that *shall* and *will* are two distinct verbs, *which interchange their meanings in the different persons. Shall* and *should* express, in the first person, simple futurity, but in the second and third persons they imply a command or decision of the speaker. On the contrary, *will* and *would* in the first person imply the same command or decision, while in the second and third they express only simple futurity. There is, however, a third verb, *will*, in every one of the three persons, which expresses the decision of the person spoken of.

This is best understood by a table of each verb and its tenses.

N° 1 expresses simple futurity.	N° 2, The decision of the speaker.	N° 3, The decision of the party spoken of.
I shall	I will	I will
Thou wilt	Thou shalt	Thou wilt
He will	He shall	He will
We shall	We will	We will
You will	You shall	You will
They will.	They shall.	They will.
Preterite.		
I should	I would	I would
Thou wouldst	Thou shouldst	Thou wouldst
He would	He should	He would
We should	We would	We would
You would	You should	You would
They would.	They should.	They would.

The first persons singular and plural in both tenses of the verbs N° 2 and 3 are necessarily the same, because the speaker and the party spoken

spoken of are one, and therefore N° 3 may be said to have no first person. The only apparent ambiguity lies between the second persons of N° 1 and 3; but the verbs are so essentially distinct in sense, that this is never perceived, even in writing; and in conversation it is always avoided by the emphasis laid on N° 3.

An Englishman says to his friend, "I *shall* be very glad to see you," not, like the Scotch and Irish, "I *will* be very glad;" the simple futurity only is here proper to be expressed, for an effort of implied volition destroys the civility. It is no compliment to any one to say, "I *will try* to be *glad* to see you," and the expression itself is a solecism. Writers on experimental philosophy in Scotland often say, "If we make such and such an experiment, we *will* find the result, &c." though they mean simple futurity—that the result *will* be so. It is as ridiculous to say "we *will* (that is, we are determined to) find the result so," as to say, "the result *shall* be so;" or else to understand the verb N° 3 instead of N° 1, the result *will* (or is in its own mind determined to) be so."

A true English writer is so much on his guard against the above error, that he sometimes falls into a contrary fault; for instance, in a note of civility written, as usual, in the third person:—"Mr. A. hoped to have sent Mr. B. the promised books this morning, but is disappointed. He trusts, however, that next week he *shall* have no difficulty in procuring them." The true meaning of which is, "he confidently thinks to himself, *I shall have no difficulty in procuring them.*" The writer could not so completely transform himself in idea into a third person, as to forget his own identity. If he had wanted to say "he trusts that his bookseller *will* have no difficulty in procuring them," the third person being evident, no doubt could have arisen in his mind.

Perhaps the use of the three verbs in question may be best illustrated by a familiar conversation between A, B, and C, in which each verb is numbered wherever it occurs.

A. I *shall*[1] fall down the precipice if I go further in this slippery path. If C goes on he *will*[1] inevitably tumble, and so *will*[1] thou. We *shall*[1] all break our necks. I *will*[2] turn back.

B. We *will*[2] go on and thou *shall*[2] go with us, whether thou *will*[3] or not.

A. You *will*[1] both repent when too late, since you *will*[3] be so obstinate. What perverseness! They *will*[1] suffer and I *shall*[1] be blamed, but their parents *shall*[2] know the truth. I *will*[2] bear this no longer, you *shall*[2] both turn back. I *should*[1] like to see you fall if I were sure you *would*[1] not hurt yourselves, and then you *should*[2]

should[2] obey me whether you *would*[3] or not. Your parents *should*[2] have sent some one with you that you *would*[3] have attended to, but they *would*[3] not, even though I *would*[2] have had them. They *would*[1] be very sorry to see what I see, and they *would*[3] be obeyed.

C. We *would*[2] obey thee if thou *wouldst*[3] but be less loquacious, and whatever may happen, I insist that thou *shouldst*[2] not blame us. Thou *wouldst*[1] be most to blame for alarming us.

We must not confound with the foregoing verbs a fourth, *should* as a sign of the potential mood, or, in other words, as *expressing the possibility of simple futurity.* This is unchanged in all the persons, whether singular or plural. Thus C might proceed in the above conversation.

C. If I *should*[4] fall and thou *shouldst*[4] see me, and if B *should*[4] be unable to help me, we *should*[1] all lament our mishap. If we *should*[4] be so unfortunate, and if you both *should*[4] go home without me, and if my parents *should*[4] be there, &c. &c.

An apparent exception to the above rule occurs in scriptural language—"the Lord shall judge the world in righteousness"—"the Lord shall reign for ever and ever"—&c. In such cases, though the fact ought, in ordinary language, to be announced as a matter of simple futurity, yet by a kind of poetical licence the narrator assumes more than ordinary authority, which can only be expressed by the tone of *decision* or *determination* derived from inspiration itself. We overlook the speaker or writer in the consideration of this all-commanding decision, proceeding from the fountain of unchangeable truth. To reduce these sentences to grammatical exactness, by substituting *will* for *shall*, as some injudicious and tasteless reformers of spiritual poetry have done, enfeebles their sentiment without adding any thing to their precision, for they are used only on an occasion in which there is no possibility of mistake.

I cannot but esteem the irregularity of the verbs in question rather a beauty than a defect in our language. No Englishman is puzzled in their use, because the rule above given is absolute. Endless confusion arises from those who, not perceiving that rule, attempt to correct the language; and the matter is only further obscured by writers, who, considering the whole but as one verb, explain it on false principles.

J. E. S.

Norwich, Aug. 5, 1807.

For the Athenæum.

SKETCH OF THE PRESENT STATE OF EDINBURGH,

(continued.)

No circumstance connected with the external appearance of Edinburgh arrests so immediately the attention of the stranger, as the singular situation and structure of the houses in the Old Town. Placed on the summit and sides of a steep, and, in many places, precipitous hill, they are themselves of a height so unusual, that the eye, glancing upon them for the first time, may well suggest to the mind some apprehensions for their future duration and security. Any such alarms, however, must vanish when we consider during how many years these buildings have withstood the inroads of decay; and when we at the same time observe the striking marks of stability and preservation which the masonry work, and other parts connected with their structure, still present. This singular appearance of the houses in the Old Town is perhaps best seen from the valley, interposed between the central and southern ridges. Following for about thirty yards one of the alleys, or *closes*, as they are called, which run northwards from the Cowgate at its western extremity, the stranger finds himself placed at the foot of a range of buildings, possessing an elevation of not less than forty or forty-five yards above the spot on which he stands. This extraordinary height is divided variously into eleven, twelve, or thirteen stories; the greater part of the range consists of twelve stories; the communication between which is preserved by broad stone staircases, winding up from the lowest part of the building to the top. Each story, or *flat*, as it is termed in Scotland, is inhabited by two families; the entrance to all the different dwellings being from the common staircase. From the very peculiar situation of these buildings, on the precipitous brow of the hill, the front, which is turned towards the north, presents to the spectator, viewing it from this side, an elevation of only six or seven stories; and as there is an access to all the common staircases from this higher level, two people may enter at the same time, one of whom descends six long flights of stairs to his habitation, while the other ascends an equal number before he can reach his elevated abode.

This system of living upon flats is almost universal in the Old Town; nor, indeed, is it possible, without some radical alteration in the structure of the houses, that it should now be otherwise. The inconveniences arising from the custom are, as may well be conceived, very numerous. An ascent to the sixth or eighth story might perhaps be tolerated, with the intervention only of a few exclamations suggested by a pair of aching legs; but when arrived at this elevated region, and penetrating into the interior of the dwellings, we find our eyes and noses also disagreeably assailed, nothing appears more desirable than a retreat as speedy as is consistent with corporeal safety; and, upon the whole, it is certainly a fortunate circumstance that in this

this instance the "facilit descensus Averno" is so completely reversed. It requires, indeed, no stretch of imagination to conceive that dirt must accumulate in habitations so far removed from the ground; and the fact amply justifies any supposition of this nature. A similar charge is applicable to the common staircases in the buildings thus constructed. The inhabitants of the lower stories are very naturally averse to the frequent repetition of cleaning, where their work is speedily destroyed by the passing up and down of their neighbours above; while the latter argue, with equal accuracy, that no obligation can possibly attach to them to keep the lower part of the staircase in its proper state of cleanliness and preservation. As there is seldom any intimacy among the dwellers on the different flats which may produce a common agreement on the subject, the effect of these reasonings on the general condition of the staircase is very evident, and not more evident than disagreeable.

I have no data which will enable me to state with precision the amount of the population in Edinburgh. From the general construction of the houses in the Old Town, it is obvious that the number of inhabitants must bear a very large proportion to the extent of ground covered with buildings; and it is probable that the population of this part of the town is not less than sixty thousand. The New Town, though it occupies altogether an extent of ground not very greatly inferior, contains a population not exceeding ten thousand; perhaps scarcely even reaching that number. The population of Leith, however, is usually estimated in conjunction with that of Edinburgh; and, making this addition, we may without fear of exaggeration, take the total number of inhabitants in the place at eighty or eighty-five thousand.

To delineate faithfully the manners and habits of society in any large town, involves so many essential requisites, that the undertaking is seldom attended with perfect and entire success. The difficulties of the attempt are increased, when the object is, like Edinburgh, the metropolis of an extensive district of country, the annual resort of the fashionable and gay, and at the same time the seat of a great and flourishing academical institution. These circumstances draw so many new distinctive lines in society, and introduce such multiplied varieties of rank and character, that the endeavour to comprehend the whole under one general view is of the most arduous and difficult nature. It is merely my present intention to notice some of the most striking facts connected with the state of manners and society in Edinburgh, without entering into the many minute details to which the subject might possibly conduct.

The want of cleanliness has been very generally regarded as a trait in the national manners of the Scotch; and, with a comparative reference to their southern neighbours, the opinion is not entirely without foundation. Generally speaking, indeed, there is in the appearance, character, and conversation of the middle classes in Edinburgh, as well as in most of the other Scotch towns, a want of that peculiar species of delicacy and refinement, which may more easily be conceived than

than described, but which is certainly remarkable among the corresponding classes of society in England. Various circumstances may have contributed to produce this characteristic distinction; among others, the mode of living, rendered necessary by the construction of the houses in all the large towns in Scotland, has undoubtedly had an important influence. Even on the ground floor, however, the interior of the houses in Edinburgh does not usually wear the same striking appearance of convenience and comfort which is observable in the southern part of the island. Much of this effect probably arises from the circumstance that the rooms in general are more scantily furnished than those in the English houses; it may partly too be attributed to a practice, very common in Scotland, of allowing all the wood about the rooms in new buildings to remain unpainted, during several years subsequent to their erection; which, as may be conceived, gives to the apartments a striking appearance of imperfection and want of finish.

The places of public amusement in Edinburgh are numerous and well frequented. From the national attachment of the Scotch to music and dancing, the concerts and assemblies hold out a peculiar allurement to their inclinations, and are upon the whole conducted with much spirit, taste, and success. The exertions of Corri, who conducts one of the concert rooms, not unfrequently procure for the musical amateur a rich repast of his favourite harmony. The assembly-room, which is situated in the centre of the New Town, is large and fitted up with remarkable elegance. During the winter season there are usually two assemblies in the course of the week; one for cards and dancing, the other, which is esteemed the more genteel, principally devoted to the latter. Theatrical amusements are not at present in much vogue at Edinburgh. The theatre is small and inelegant, and the performers have been for many years such as would scarcely satisfy the limited expectations of a country audience, much less the correct and classical taste of a metropolis. The stage is sometimes, indeed, illuminated by the genius of a London performer; but attractions of this kind are not sufficiently numerous to render it a permanent or favourite amusement of the place. In the winter season, when gaiety is at its height, private balls and routes are extremely frequent in Edinburgh among the higher classes of society; and, like those in other places, appear to be esteemed in a degree exactly proportionate to the number of people who can be collected together under one roof.

The ordinary visiting parties in Edinburgh are certainly on a better footing, and possess, upon the whole, more attractions than those of the same general description in the English towns. The friendly and hospitable character of the Scotch introduces an openness, and freedom from reserve, into their houses, which is highly gratifying to the stranger, and eminently favourable, at the same time, to the animation and interest of conversation. The latter circumstance, indeed, is that which principally contributes to give its peculiar character to the society of Edinburgh. In their common parties we find a cast of conversation greatly superior to what is met with elsewhere; and the necessity

of

of a frequent recourse to cards, as a means of passing away time, is superseded by the more rational pleasures of an animated colloquial intercourse. Subjects of literature and science interweave themselves with the transient topics of the day, and are discussed with a degree of general ability and information, which must surprize the more from the infrequency of its occurrence among the corresponding classes of society in other large towns. The many eminent literary characters which adorn the place, have, no doubt, contributed greatly to the formation of this taste among the inhabitants of Edinburgh. The professors connected with the college do not form an insulated and distinct body, as is perhaps too much the case at the English universities, but are in habits of the most intimate association with the different families in the town and neighbourhood; entering into the parties, and partaking of all the amusements which the place affords. The numerous and valuable publications on subjects of taste and science which issue from the Edinburgh press, have likewise an immediate influence on the character of conversation among the inhabitants; a degree of interest being naturally connected with the works of those with whom we are personally acquainted, which cannot possibly be attached to the productions of a distant and unknown pen. Alluding to this circumstance, the Edinburgh Review may individually be mentioned as a remarkable instance in point. Disquisition upon its disquisitions, and satire upon its satires, are among the most frequent topics of conversation at the Edinburgh tables; while, admiration of its liberal and enlightened political principles, and of the strong and impressive language in which these are conveyed, is opposed by a general sympathy with the feelings of the poet, wounded and oppressed by the poignant severity of undeserved criticism.

The hours of visiting in Edinburgh are the same, or even later than those usually observed in England. The inconveniences arising from the extreme to which this fashion has of late years been carried, are increased by the frequency of supper parties among the inhabitants of this city. The company are seldom assembled at one of these parties till half past ten or eleven o'clock; and it is very commonly one or two o'clock in the *morning* before they disperse themselves for the *evening*. In private tea parties, which, however, are not frequent in Edinburgh, music is generally resorted to as a principal means of entertainment; dancing, on such occasions, being by no means so frequent as formerly. Singing has long been a favourite amusement in Scotland. The native beauty and simplicity of the Scotch airs, aided by the exquisite poetical effusions of Ramsay, Burns, and Macneil, and connected with a thousand national associations and feelings, must ever possess the strongest and most powerful attractions with the inhabitants of this part of the island. The thrilling of Italian music may fail, where a few plaintive notes will kindle the whole soul into feeling.

Dinner parties are frequent among the middle and higher classes of society in Edinburgh. Though the practice of keeping late hours has been carried to such an extreme, there are some circumstances connected with these parties, in which an evident amelioration has taken place

place during the last few years. Intemperance at table is a much more rare occurrence than formerly; and we now seldom meet with an instance of that inordinate attachment to the pleasures of the appetite, which forms so disgusting a trait in the general character. The style of conversation at these parties is of course varied by the rank and description of the society in which they are respectively given. Among the literary inhabitants of the place, meetings of this kind are not unfrequently formed with a direct view to the discussion of scientific subjects. The geological opinions of the present day have been repeatedly canvassed during the circulation of the bottle at an Edinburgh dinner party.

The principal courts of judicature in Scotland being established in Edinburgh, the population of this city comprehends a great number of individuals connected with the profession of the law. These constitute, in some measure, a distinct part of the society of the place; and, regarded as a body, are certainly remarkable for general talent, information, and liberality of sentiment. Many of them have acquired by their publications a high rank in the world of taste and literature, and a reputation which will go down with undiminished honours to posterity. The fire and genius breathing through every line of the Lay of the Last Minstrel, will long continue to captivate the imagination; and the more pensive beauties of the Sabbath, to engage the affections of each feeling and poetical mind. These are the productions of individuals personally connected with the profession of the law; while in the more sober walks of literature, we find lately coming from the same source Lord Woodhouselee's Life of Lord Kaimes, and the elaborate work of Mr. Forsyth on the Principles of Moral Science. The expectations of the stranger, visiting for the first time the Scotch court of judicature, would, however, in all probability, be greatly disappointed. The general style of oratory displayed there is certainly inferior to that of the English courts: it is not unfrequently strong and energetic, but wants that polish and those minute elegancies of diction which enter so essentially into the character of genuine eloquence. The indecorum and apparent disorder of the proceedings are likewise strikingly contrasted with the dignified conduct and regularity remarkable in the English courts of law. A verbal contest between two barristers is a circumstance of little importance; but when a similar contest is carried on, in a petulant and angry manner, between judges on the bench, a natural feeling of disgust must be excited in the mind of every one who has the slightest sense of propriety or accuracy of conduct.

(To be continued.)

GRAMMATICAL DISCUSSION CONTINUED.

I have read, with pleasure, the "Grammatical Discussion," contained in the 8th number of the Athenæum. The author of that paper has my thanks, and, I doubt not, the thanks of many other persons,

sons, for having brought before the public a curious and useful grammatical question. It is a point which frequently occurs in composition, and on which the practice of the best English writers is very discordant. The right decision of it must therefore be of considerable importance.

The ingenious and respectable writer who has introduced the subject into the Athenæum, has perfectly succeeded in supporting the opinion of Dr. Lowth and several of our first grammarians, on the point under consideration, and in combating the arguments of a sensible and acute opponent. I think, however, that he has not been equally happy in his attempt to form rules, for determining when the *present* of the infinitive mood is to be used, and when the *perfect* of that mood is proper. The rules which he proposes are the following. "1st. When merely the *action* of the subsequent verb, either present "or future, is intended, use the present of the infinitive of this verb: "thus, "It pleases me, or, it pleased me, *to give* good advice." "2dly. When not merely the action of the verb is intended, but the "*past action*, and the *possession* of it, use what is termed the perfect "of the infinitive; provided that, according to the nature of the lead- "ing verb, a form implying a past action can be the object of its "reference, or can, consistently with the nature of things, be depend- "ent upon it: thus, "It pleases me, or, it pleased me, *to have given* "good advice." Of these rules, without at present examining whether they are accurate, it may be fairly asserted, that as they were expressly designed to instruct the juvenile student, they do not possess the perspicuity requisite for this purpose. They are not obvious, not readily comprehensible by young minds. The latter rule, in particular, is intricate, and involves abstruse provisoes, which have no illustrations annexed to them.

It may not be improper to contrast these rules with that which is given by Murray, in his English Grammar, page 181. The rule which this author has laid down, and which is founded on the authorities of Harris and Campbell, and I think, too, on the authority of common sense, is to the following purport: "When the action or event, signified by the subsequent verb, is, with respect to the governing verb, *contemporary* or *future*, the present of the infinitive is to be used: when it is *not* contemporary *nor* future, the perfect of the infinitive is proper." This rule appears to me to be so simple and easy, and so intelligible to the juvenile student of grammar, that I cannot perceive the necessity or use of any other, much less of another which, in my view at least, tends to obscure and embarrass the subject. According to the rule adopted by Murray, and explained by his observations, the scholar has only to consider, whether the governed verb refers to a time antecedent, contemporary, or future, with regard to the governing verb. When this simple point is ascertained, there can be no doubt in his mind respecting the form of the infinitive verb. Two or three examples may illustrate these positions. In the sentence, "I rejoiced *to have seen* my friend," the sight of my friend is supposed to have happened at some particular period antecedent to the time

time of my rejoicing; and, consequently, the verb expressing that circumstance is in the perfect of the infinitive. The same meaning may be expressed in a different form, viz. "I rejoiced *that I had seen* my friend." If I wished to signify, that I was rejoiced *in seeing* my friend, that my joy and his presence existed at the same time, I should say, "I rejoiced *to see* my friend."

Though the rule and the explanations which Murray has given on this subject are so explicit and satisfactory, yet they have not met the approbation of the author of the "Grammatical Discussion." He says, "that Mr. L. Murray's remarks on this point are in general correct; but that not having clearly seen the principles on which his practice is founded, he has fallen into error." I shall examine, in a few words, the nature of this supposed error. Murray asserts, at page 181, that, in the following sentence, the latter verb is with propriety put in the perfect tense of the infinitive mood: "It would have afforded me great pleasure *to have been* the messenger of such intelligence." The author alluded to declares, that it would be equally proper to use the present of the infinitive, if the sense were different, that is, if the message and the pleasure were contemporary. But this position being exactly conformable with the rule advanced by Murray, and with his numerous illustrations, I cannot perceive in what respect it operates against his principle or practice. When he says, that the latter verb in the preceding example should be in the perfect of the infinitive, because the message is here supposed to be past at the time of the pleasure, he does not give the least intimation, that the present of the infinitive would be improper, if the sense were changed, and the message and pleasure contemporary. In the very next sentence Murray gives an example which is precisely to the point, and which clearly shows that he thought it might be equally correct to use the present or the perfect of the infinitive, according to the sense conveyed by the expressions. Thus he says, "In the following sentence, 'It was truly comfortable *to see* him so affectionate and dutiful to his parents,' the verb is properly put in the present of the infinitive, because the *comfort* and the *seeing* were contemporary."

I hope that I have not taken up too great a portion of this paper, in vindicating Murray from the charge of error, and of not understanding the principle on which his practice is founded. This vindication appeared to be due to him, and to the numerous teachers who have adopted his grammar, as well as to the public who have so liberally patronized his work; it is also intimately connected, in every part of it, with the discussion of the point in question.

CANDIDUS.

CLASSICAL DISQUISITIONS.

ON THE MINOR POEMS ASCRIBED TO HOMER.

AS the fame of Homer gradually obscured that of the contemporary bards, and as little skill in criticism, and little accuracy in literary history were attained during several succeeding ages, it became a custom among the Greeks to ascribe to the father of their poetry every relic of ancient Ionic song which had descended to posterity without a distinct appropriation to any other claimant. It appears likewise that there were rhapsodists, distinguished by the appellation of Homeridæ, who, in the island of Chios at least, asserted themselves to be of the poet's family; and it is probable that little accurate distinction was made between their productions and those of the bard from whom they received their name. Thus Athenæus ascribes one of the hymns to Homer, or some one of the Homeridæ. At a later period literary impostures were not uncommon in Greece, and the royal and opulent collectors of libraries, it may be supposed, were often induced by the allurement of a splendid name, to purchase at an exorbitant price productions, which, destitute of that sanction, would scarcely have been considered as possessing a claim to notice. From these various causes the name of Homer was gradually prefixed to a great variety of compositions, of characters wholly dissimilar. The incredulity of modern criticism with difficulty admits that the Iliad and Odyssey, considering the circumstances of the age to which they are ascribed, could have been in their present state the work of a single bard. The ancients seem to have been desirous that the genius of their national poet should be esteemed as fertile as it was great, and with every fragment of ancient verse, the memory of whose real author was lost, they associated the name of Homer; as the ignorant inhabitants of the East ascribe to the power and wealth of Solomon those remains of ancient magnificence, whose history they are as little able to investigate, as they are qualified to comprehend their design, or imitate their structure.

Of the spurious poems ascribed to Homer, only the Batrachomyomachia and hymns, with a few shorter poems, have escaped from the ravages of time.

The Batrachomyomachia is spoken of by various ancient authors as the production of Homer, though they probably mean rather to describe it under the name by which it was commonly known, than to advance any decisive opinion of their own. It however bears every internal mark of being a composition of a much later age, and is ascribed by Plutarch (de Herod. malig.) and Suidas to Pigres, the brother* (as is commonly said) of queen Artemisia, who distinguished herself

* Wyttenbach, however, for chronological reasons, supposes that the word πολιτης has either been lost, or is to be understood, and promises to consider the passage more at large in his notes, which, we trust, will be soon accessible through the medium of the Clarendon press.

herself in the Persian war. The poem itself contains manifest proofs of interpolation, and is regarded by Herman (partly on account of some metrical irregularities) as a farrago of verses of different ages, the basis of which may be of considerable antiquity. The Batrachomyomachia seems to have been a poem of general circulation, and probably underwent as many successive changes as some of the popular ballads of our own country.

Various separate editions of this poem have appeared. The first is without a date, and being one of the earliest Greek works committed to the press, is esteemed a great bibliographical curiosity. It is printed with types resembling those of the grammar of Lascaris, 1476. The second edition appeared at Venice 1486, and is printed alternately with black and red lines. Maittaire published an edition taken from the preceding, and printed with the same peculiarity, Lond. 1721. Many editions appeared during the sixteenth century.

There is a translation of this poem into modern Greek by Demetrius Zenus, a native of Zante, which has been repeatedly published, and lately reprinted by Ilgen. The following are the introductory verses.

Περ τουν' αρχησω δεομαι του ὑψιστον τον Δια,
Να μ'αποστειλη Βοντους 'σ τουτην την ἱστορια,
Ταις μουσαις, οπου κατοικουν 'ς Γ' ορος του 'Ελικωνος,
Γιατι εγω δεν δυναμαι, να λογαριασω μονος
Μαχην την πολυταραχεν του ισχυρου του Αρη,
Οπωις Θεος λογιζεται, και Θειον παλικαρι.

The poem is rhymed throughout; the measure is evidently derived from the ancient Iambic tetram. catalectic, but is purely accentual, paying little or no regard to quantity. The translator flourished about 1530.

The hymns ascribed to Homer are in number thirty-three, of which four are poems of considerable extent, and the rest short compositions.

It is usually supposed, and with considerable probability, that one of the first offices of poetry was the celebration of the praises of the divinity. That enthusiasm and elevation of feeling which characterize the higher efforts of poetry, would naturally be first excited by the observation of those grand and unusual phænomena, which communicate to uninstructed minds the strongest impressions of supernatural power, and are more readily referred by them to a divine agency than the majestic but uniform operations of nature in the usual tenour of her course. In the heathen world the symbols of natural powers were the objects of divine worship; the elements of poetry and religion therefore would necessarily be the same. Pompous rites and solemn festivities seem to have been first connected with religious service; processions, dances, music, and poetry, were employed to add splendour to the ceremonies of worship. The Greeks themselves enumerate hymns among the earlier species of poetic composition. The most ancient monument of Latin poetry was the song of the Salii, referred to the age of Numa, and the early poetry of the Jews, as is well

well known, was almost entirely devoted to the service of their religion.

The hymns of the Greeks may be classed under the following divisions: the mythological, the philosophical, and the mystic.

The mythological may be distinguished into the epic and the lyric. The hymns which in an heroic style and measure relate the lineage and exploits of particular divinities, may be termed epic. To this class belong the hymns of the Homeridæ and Callimachus, though those of the latter assume a loftier tone of expression, and one of them adopts the elegiac stanza. Of the lyric hymn, distinguished from the epic by its variety of measure, its more elevated spirit of poetry, and greater liberty of diction, we have various specimens in Horace, though his Greek originals are lost. Of the philosophical hymns, that of Cleanthes to Jove affords a fine example. The mystic hymns are little more than a string of titles and epithets, describing the attributes of the gods to whom they are addressed, and used in the celebration of religious mysteries. Such are those which bear the name of Orpheus. They answer to the Latin *indigitamenta*.

The mythological hymns appear to be those which gained the most general circulation. They were sung or recited on almost every occasion of public or private festivity. They formed the solemn accompaniment of sacrifices, and were repeated during the procession to the temple, during the performance of the sacrificial rites, and at the sacred feast by which they were succeeded. The celebration of public games was solemnized by the recital of hymns in honour of the divinity by whom they were patronized. We have instances also of their employment in private festivities.

The hymns are by some ancient writers distinguished by the appellation of προοιμια. Under this title Thucydides quotes the hymn to Apollo, ascribed to Homer. The word is explained by the scholiast on that passage as merely equivalent to hymn. Pindar likewise (Nem. II.) uses the word, speaking of the Homeridæ, as drawing the proëme of their song from Jove,

Ομηριδαι
Ραπτων επεων τα πολλ' αοιδοι
Αρχονται Διος εκ προοιμιου.

Many of the remaining hymns have the appearance of having been employed as prologues to the recitation of the rhapsodists, ending with formulæ of this nature,

Αυταρ εγω και σειο, και αλλης μνησομ' αοιδης,
or Σευ δ' εγω αρξαμενος μεταβησομαι αλλον ες υμνον.

Wolf supposes that it was from this circumstance that the hymns came to be ascribed to Homer, having been frequently employed as proëmes to the recitation of passages of his works.

The names of many authors of hymns are not mentioned by the Greek

Greek writers. Pamphus and Olen, with some others, are *said* to have flourished before Homer.

The most remarkable characteristic of the larger hymns ascribed to Homer, is the common restriction of their subject to some single event, while those of Callimachus usually describe a number of successive actions, the object of which is to illustrate the power and greatness of the divinity whom he undertakes to celebrate.

The present state of the hymns of Homer, or more properly the Homeridæ, is manifestly very corrupt. There are remarkable variations in the manuscripts, some of which are of such magnitude, as to denote their derivation from different editions of the poems. Markland thus explains some of the variations which occur in the text of Maximus Tyrius. Nor is it only in single expressions or lines that the reading of the hymns is embarrassed. Long passages frequently interrupt the natural order of narration, which seem to have little or no connection with the place in which they stand. Hence various editors and commentators have exercised their ingenuity and judgment in attempting to restore these poems to something like their primitive state, by rejecting what they deemed interpolated passages. Herman* has formed an ingenious hypothesis for the same object, which at least deserves statement and consideration. He adopts two principles to account for the difficulties which at present embarrass the perusal of these hymns. The first is, that in various instances connecting passages have been lost, the want of which disturbs the narration, and renders it harsh and obscure. This he argues, partly from the variations of the remaining manuscripts, and partly from the internal evidence of the poems themselves. His second supposition is somewhat more intricate and abstruse. The rhapsodists, he observes, who by learning and frequently reciting the works of Homer, had acquired some skill in the poetic art, in the exercise of it commonly proceeded in one of these three ways: they either imitated Homer, or described more at large what he had briefly treated, or interpolated his works. By interpolation he means not merely the insertion of additional verses, but the alteration and disguise of passages previously existing. Of each of these modes of proceeding he gives what he deems instances from the Iliad itself. The interpolations of the greater poems have so far supplanted the original text, that the latter can by no means which the critic can devise be restored to its primitive state. The interpolations of the hymns, on the contrary, instead of supplanting the original text, he supposes to be mingled with it. Some old transcriber, from whose copy our present manuscripts have flowed, having different texts before him, which in some particulars agreed, while in others they were widely dissimilar, to save trouble, mingled the different readings, assuming one as his basis, and inserting the variations of the rest. This principle he pursues through the larger hymns, and attempts to distinguish the parts which belonged to different editions.

Whatever be the fact on this subject, it may be regarded as certain, that

* In epistola edit. hymn. præmiss.

that some of the hymns are at present in a state in which they could never have been composed by one author.

It may be asked, who was the author of these hymns, and at what period were they probably composed?

The supposition that they are the production of Homer, seems to be at present universally abandoned. The testimony of ancient writers, indeed, proves that at an early period some of them were commonly ascribed to that poet, but without any sufficient historical record. After criticism was cultivated in Greece, the genuineness of the hymns appears to have been always considered as liable to suspicion. Various authors are mentioned, and the best ancient writers speak with uncertainty on the subject. The internal evidence is still less favourable to the claims of these poems. Words occur which we are assured by ancient writers were not in use till a later period than the age of Homer, and on comparing their language with the diction of the Iliad and Odyssey, peculiarities are discernible, several instances of which are pointed out by Bergler.*

Though certainly not composed by Homer, the hymns appear to be compositions of great antiquity. One of them is cited by Thucydides, and being cited by him as the work of Homer, could scarcely have been at that period a recent production. Their ages are probably various, and must obviously be incapable of any exact computation.

The first hymn is addressed to Apollo, and is certainly, as was first observed by Ruhnkenius, to be divided into two, the first celebrating the Delian, the second the Pythian Apollo. This supposition is confirmed by passages of Thucydides and Aristides. This may in some degree reconcile Thucydides with the scholiast of Pindar. The former quotes the hymn to Apollo, and ascribes it to Homer, but he refers only to the Delian hymn, which on his authority may be allowed to be ancient. The latter speaks of Cyncethus, the rhapsodist, as the author of the hymn to Apollo; he, or the author whom he copied, had in view perhaps only the Pythian poem, of which Cyncethus may perhaps be really the author, though little anterior to the time of Thucydides. The subject of the first hymn is the birth of Apollo; that of the second, the establishment of the temple and priesthood of Delphi.

The hymn addressed to Mercury, is at once distinguished by the corrupt state in which it has descended to us, and by the memorable instance which it presents of the absurdity of the heathen mythology. Its object is to celebrate Mercury in the character of the god of thieves. The poem is accordingly principally employed in recording the dexterity with which, while a child, he stole the oxen of Apollo, and the pertinacity with which he denied the theft. So early, indeed, was the display of his powers, that, as the poet, or one of his interpolators, tells us, "he was born in the morning, at noon he played on the harp, and in the evening stole the oxen of Apollo. The inequality of this poem, and the confusion of its narration, have led to the supposition that it is little more than an unskilful compilation of fragments.

The

* Præf. ad Odyss.

The hymn to Venus is, according to the concurring opinion of the editors, the most beautiful and least corrupt of these poems. It has been observed by a learned correspondent of the Athenæum,* that its prosody, so far as relates to the use of the digamma, corresponds with the practice of Homer. It is therefore probably the most ancient of the hymns. The subject is the love of Venus and Anchises.

The hymn to Ceres has only been recently brought to light. The former existence of such a poem was indeed known from Pausanias, who repeatedly mentioned it, and quotes some verses from it. The scholiast of Nicander also refers to an incident mentioned in it, and classes it among the hymns ascribed to Homer. The poem itself was, however, supposed by learned men to have been long since lost. The late empress of Russia, desirous of encouraging the study of ancient literature in her dominions, invited a number of learned foreigners to become professors in the different universities of her empire. Among them was Chr. Fred. Matthæi, who was stationed at Moscow. On his arrival, hearing that a considerable number of Greek manuscripts was preserved in the library of the synod, which had long remained in neglect, he immediately examined them with all the eagerness that might be expected from a learned critic, who had suddenly met with a treasure so unlooked for. Among other works he found a manuscript of Homer, written towards the close of the fourteenth century, taken from a valuable original, and, with a fragment of the Iliad, containing sixteen of the published hymns, nearly in the order in which they are usually printed. The sixteenth hymn was followed by a fragment, comprising twelve verses, of a lost hymn to Bacchus, and this was succeeded by a long, and, except in a few places, entire hymn to Ceres. Triumphing in the discovery, the learned professor, unwilling to submit to the delay which must necessarily be experienced in printing a Greek work at Moscow, sent with all possible speed a transcript into Holland, to Ruhnkenius, by whom it was published with valuable notes. Matthæi, however, soon after discovered, that in the haste of transcription he had omitted about twenty verses, and consequently that the edition first published in Holland was incomplete. The imperfect work was suppressed, and succeeded by a complete edition, which appeared in 1782. The subject of this hymn is the rape of Proserpine, the distress of Ceres, the foundation of the temple of Eleusis, and the restoration of Proserpine at intervals to the realms above, and the society of her mother.

Though this hymn is ascribed by Pausanias to Homer, it may with confidence be asserted to have no better claims than the rest to be the work of that poet. On account of some diversities between the present hymn and the quotations of Pausanias, it has indeed been supposed that this is not the poem referred to by that writer. Various hypotheses have been formed to account for this difference. The most probable is that of Herman, that the hymns of Pausanias and the present copy are different editions of the same poem.

One

* Vol. I. 132.

One of the first persons who paid a critical attention to the hymns was Bernard Martin, who in his "Various Readings," published at Paris 1605, has restored some corrupt passages. Ruhnkenius devoted to this subject the principal part of his first critical epistle (L. Bat. 1749, 1782) and suggested the necessity of distinguishing the spurious verses from the genuine parts. The publication of the hymn of Ceres seems to have excited fresh attention to the hymns. Mitscherlich has published a separate edition of that hymn, with a learned commentary. Ilgen has given a complete edition of the hymns and Batrachomyomachia, with learned notes, Hal. Sax. 1796.) In Aug. 1800, Matthæi published animadversions on the hymns, and afterwards an edition of these poems. The last editor is the indefatigable Herman, who in 1806 published an edition, preceded by an epistle, in which he attempts to develope the original state of these poems, and to point out the mode of their corruption and interpolation.

Soon after the publication of the hymn to Ceres, two translations of it into English verse appeared, by Hole and Lucas.

With respect to the translations of the works of Homer into our own or other languages, little needs to be said. None of the foreign translations appear to have acquired or to deserve great celebrity, with the exception perhaps of that of Voss into German. The early English translations of Chapman, Hobbes, and Ogilvy are obsolete, and are seldom consulted but by the antiquary. That of Pope, notwithstanding its known incorrectness, by the smoothness, polish, and spirit of its versification, still retains its popularity. That of Cowper, though abundantly more faithful, and often highly poetical, yet is usually executed in a style somewhat too dry and harsh, ever to become a popular rival of its more finished predecessor.

Erratum in the last.

p. 150, lines 15, 17, for *Franciscus* read *Francinus*.

EXTRACTS FROM THE GRECIAN DRAMA.

No. 5.

The Trojan Female Captives.

A MIGHTY and flourishing city has been conquered, and its martial inhabitants are sent away into captivity or put to the sword.—Agreeably to the customs of a barbarous age, the females submit to accept strangers, enemies, and the murderers of their rightful lords and children, for husbands.—Cassandra, the prophetess, is allotted to Agamemnon; and previously to being led away to the tent of her master, vents her indignation against him, and foretells the violent death which awaits him and herself.

The contrast between the violence of Cassandra and the gentle resignation of Andromache is finely preserved in the original of the following speeches.

Cassandra

Cassandra, infuriate at her marriage with Agamemnon,—to Hecuba.

Crown me with garlands, mother! and with pride
Greet thy lov'd child become a royal bride,
And if she loiter on this joyous night,
Fill her with longings for the nuptial rite—
E'en now I wait impatient to be led
Worse than a fury to my husband's bed,
In his own blood to quench his lawless fire,
And thus avenge my brothers and my sire.
But hush my soul—let mystic night conceal
When on this neck shall fall the avenging steel;
The son—slain mother, murders, foul disgrace,
That from this marriage light on all the race.
Fall'n is my native land, her sons no more—
Yet e'en these tumbling towers, this ravag'd shore
Shall (or misguided phrenzy fires my brains)
Bloom like a garden to their Grecian plains;
For this reward (one traitress foul to save)
They peopled tombs with myriads young and brave;
For this exchanging all domestic ties,
The sweets of friendship for stern enmities,
O'er wintry seas their frantic leader came
To bear one female back, her country's shame.
Peace was their own—by wild ambition led,
War they preferr'd, and hither sail'd and bled.
No children smil'd beneath these hostile skies,
No wife assuag'd their dying agonies,
Or veil'd each warrior corse—but wide around
Their dead lie festering o'er the unhappy ground.
Nor happier are their homes—their widow'd wives
Sleep in their tombs—and scarce a son survives,
Who shall return, of all the martial line,
To pour libations on his father's shrine:
These are the triumphs of that mighty host,
Who scattered havoc, and appall'd our coast;
Their deeds of black impunity to speak
Would freeze thy soul, and flush thy modest cheek.
More envied in their fate, our warrior band
Bled for the freedom of their native land,
Borne to their homes, and by their kindred dear
Grac'd with due honours, and the decent bier,
Wept by their brides, and by their country blest,
Beneath the land that gave them birth they rest;
While some from fight return'd to peaceful joys,
To wives who lov'd them and their smiling boys.
Oh, mighty Hector, happy was thy state,
Lov'd in thy life, and glorious in thy fate,

Who, had our foes ne'er brav'd the ocean tide,
Hadst liv'd unhonour'd, undistinguish'd died;
Great was my brother Paris, doom'd to die
Ennobled for a proud adultery.
Dreadful is war—but when the danger falls,
The brave man courts it on his country's walls;
Then weep not, mother, for thy captive child,
Torn hence to loathed endearments and defil'd,
This night my husband learns how near allied
Are death and marriage from his hostile bride.

The foregoing is only the commencement of Cassandra's fury.—As the hour for embarkation and her marriage approaches, the phrenzy encreases, her spirit of revenge becomes more desperate, and her grief for parting from her country more violent.—By the spirit of prophecy, with which she is gifted, she foresees the murder of her husband. The same spirit paints to her eyes her own corse thrown into the waves and toss'd up near his grave.

* * * * * * * * Herald, lead the way—
Thou vaunting leader, to the marriage cheer
Join mournful rituals, and prepare thy bier
For thine own burial. See the wintry wave
Dashes my body near my husband's grave;
Naked and thrown to savage beasts I lie,
Whom heaven has lov'd, and bless'd with prophecy.
Prophetic garlands, symbols of the power
Whom I have serv'd until this fatal hour,
Be gone—your spotless honours to ensure,
I tear ye thus from limbs no longer pure.
Lead me to climb the royal bark—the gales
Shall at my potent bidding fill your sails;
For o'er your ship a fury's self presides,
Whose breath shall blow to rage the sleeping tides.
My native land, and thou who gav'st me birth,
Farewell—my brothers, father, low in earth,
Soon will ye greet me, when this hand has shed
The blood of those who laid ye with the dead.

ANDROMACHE.

To have been never born, oh mother, ne'er
Tasted the freshness of this upper air,
Is but the same with death—To die! To be
A cypher blotted from mortality—
Death is far better than a life of pain,
Who feel not, grieve not, and our fears are vain.
Oh rather for the living bid them flow,
Those wretched victims of perpetual woe,

Who

Who still, in bitterness of soul, possess
The memory of departed happiness.
—My sister is at peace—the cheerful light
No longer breaks upon her beamless night.
The sense of present wants and woes to come
Alike lie buried in the silent tomb.
But I—(in mockery of my alter'd life,
Who yet remember I was Hector's wife)
I—the blest partner of connubial joy,
The pride and envy of the dames of Troy,
How can I stoop to slavery's abject lot?
And how, my former glorious state forgot,
Submit to please a victor's wild desires,
And light on Hector's tomb unhallow'd fires?
Her I abhor, whose lawless lust can seek
(Without a blush on her dishonest cheek)
A second partner to her widow'd bed,
When the fond husband of her youth lies dead.
Oh Hector! I am only thine—to thee
I paid the vow of maiden constancy;
To thee my pure, unspotted soul resign'd,
The wisest, noblest, bravest of mankind.
Now thou hast left me—and I must not have
The last poor comfort that the wretched crave.
I cannot sorrow o'er thy urn, but go
A friendless captive to a tyrant foe,
Where no glad home my weeping eyes shall see,
And hope, that comes to all, shall fly from me.

NARVA.

ACCOUNTS OF, AND EXTRACTS FROM, RARE AND CURIOUS BOOKS.

ENCYCLOPEDICAL SURVEY, &c. *(continued.)*

It is singular, that with few exceptions, most of the Moslem authors were Persians, or at least Arabs, that wrote in Persian. The causes of this singular circumstance appear to be, that the Arabs were for a long time unacquainted with the arts and sciences. At first they preserved the divine precepts not in books but in their hearts, studied the sources of them only in the Koran and the Sunnah, and knew no books till the following century. The language, from the intercourse with foreigners, began to degenerate, and grammar began to be studied. Science requires rest and social life very different from the habits of the wandering Arabs; and quiet and social comfort were sought by no people more than by the Persians, who at that period enjoyed more than

than any political tranquillity. Thus the grammarians Sebuje, Farsi, and Sujaj were Persians, who learned Arabic by mixing with the Arabs, and settled the rules of the language for the benefit of posterity. The Arabs on the other hand, where they discovered the advantages of a settled residence, and renounced their habits of wandering, applied chiefly to the mechanical and liberal arts, under the government of the Abbassides. These had reached a high degree of excellence before the philosophical sciences were known to the Moslems. These sciences took firm root among the Persians, but were known to the Arabs only, for the most part, by translations.

The final end of all science, of all instruction, of all learning, is the knowledge of God. This is the end of ends, the beginning of all happiness. And thou learner, hast thou chosen science for thy profession, devote thyself to it throughout life. Oh, reader, take knowledge for thy guide on the road of salvation!

It is related of several Sheiks, that they burnt their books. Ahmed ben Abulhawari one day brought his books to the Euphrates, sat down and wept for an hour. He then said, "Books have, indeed, guided me to God my Lord, but now I have reached the end, it is needless to busy myself with the ladder;" and the stream of the Euphrates swept away his books. Abu Omer and Ben Aba filled a house with books up to the roof, and then set fire to it. Alaskeleni says that these burnt their books because they thought that no person had a right to diffuse knowledge. They believed that science, if generally known, would lose its value, and held it better that books should be destroyed than sink in estimation. Some of these book-destroyers acted from a love of abstraction, or ill-understood desire of withdrawing their affections from every thing except God. My own opinion is (says Haji Khalfa) that no one has a right to separate himself from his books, the friends of his soul, for no one can be sure that his taste for them may not revive, or that he may not in future find them necessary.

Encyclopædia.

Class 1.—The art of writing.

There are various claimants for the honour of inventing the Arabic characters, but Haji Khalfa favours the pretensions of Ismail. All languages, the letters of which are arranged according to the formula, Abjed, &c. as Hebrew, Syriac, Arabic, Persian, and Turkish, are written from right to left, all others (except Chinese) from left to right.

The Syriac character. There are three kinds; 1. the Estrangelo or perpendicular; 2. the Ascalonian, which is most ornamental; and 3. the Shartawi, or current hand used in letters, &c.

The Hebrew, which is only a variation of the Syriac, was invented by Heben ben Saleh about the time that Abraham passed over the Euphrates.

The Greeks had, besides their ordinary character, a sort of shorthand, which is mentioned by Galen.

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The Chinese character is very difficult and is hard to learn. The quickest scribe cannot write above two or three sheets a day. They, too, have a short hand, by which you may comprize within a page what in the ordinary manner of writing would take up a hundred.

The Manichean character has more letters than Arabic, and was used formerly in Mawaralnahr.

The Hindoo characters are very numerous.

The Ethiopian and Abyssinian, like the Hamyaritic, are united together. They write from left to right, and end every word with three stops.

Arabic. Ibn Ishak says, that the Mecca characters are the most ancient next those of Medina, which was superseded by the Cufic. The lines of the two former lean very much to the right. Kendi says that he knows no alphabet that can boast such a critical exactness as Arabic, and yet it may be written with more rapidity than any other.

Haji Khalfa enumerates twelve kinds of hand-writing, all derived from Cufic, three only of which are now known. He then mentions six modern hand-writings, and several persons eminent in calligraphy from Khalid Ben Albehaj, the first who made an ornamented copy of the Koran, which he did for the Ommiad Khalif Walid, to Almostassami, who died in 698 of the Hejirah.

The branches of grammar are, 1. The knowledge of writing materials, as of pens, ink, paper, &c. There is a celebrated didactic poem upon the subject by Ibnal Ebwab, with a commentary by Yakub.

2. Calligraphy.

3. The art of pointing.

The Koran was originally written without the diacritical points. Some say it was pointed by the command and upon the authority of Ali. Without this invention there might have been endless disputes about the meaning of the Koran.

4. Orthography. 5. The art of writing the Koran. 6. Metrography, or the art of writing poetry with a reference only to prosody.

Philology, second class—teaches to speak and write Arabic correctly.

The learned have made twelve subdivisions of this science, which they comprehend under the name of Humanity. They are also called Arabic sciences, because their principal object is the Arabic language, the most excellent, the most refined, and most perfect of all languages. Not all Arabian philologers are to be considered as classical authors, but those only of such tribes as have not intermixed with foreigners, as those of the tribes of Hasil, Kenanet, Temim, Kais Gailan, and many of the tribe of Hejas. On the other hand, those philologers are held in little estimation who are of the tribes of Hamir, Hamadan, Cholan, and Esed, who have intermixed with the Æthiopians. Those of Tai and Gassan, who were connected with Greeks and Romans, and those of Abdulkais, who bordered on Persia.

1. The permutation of letters, &c.

2. Lexicography,

2. Lexicography. The best and most celebrated lexicon is the Alschah of Jawheri.

3. On the meaning of words. This treats of the general and particular meaning of words, the first teacher of which was God.

4. Etymology and derivation of words.

5. Of particles, tenses, &c.

6. On declensions and conjugations. This art is the true measure of rhetoric, as prosody is of prose, and logic of syntax.

7. Syntax, or correct phraseology, of which some make eight branches.

8. Rhetoric. The surest method of obtaining a knowledge of rhetoric is an attentive study of the Koran. Rhetoric has five grand divisions; the proper use of words of similies, of the part for the whole, effect for cause, &c. allegory, and allusion.

9. Of tropes and rhetorical figures. This art teaches the ornaments of speech and their proper application; for to scatter beauties without design, is to put a pearl necklace upon a hog. Some deny this to be an art by itself, but consider it as an appendix to the two preceding. The basis of this art is inward beauty, or beauty of thought; but beauty of expression is no less necessary, for the short-sighted superficial reader will seldom take the pains to seek beneath the surface. Some writers enumerate 200 figures of rhetoric.

10. Prosody. Jawheri reckons twelve kinds of rythms or *seas*, as they are called, seven of which are simple.

11. Art of rhyming. The six final letters of each line, which contain the rhyme, have each their particular name and rules.

12. Art of metre. On the proper metres for different subjects.

13. Poetics. On the forming a style. Practically taught by specimens.

14. The same taught theoretically.

15. The art of making anthologies and elegant extracts. One of the most classical compilations is the Rabiâ Alabrar.

16. Art of compiling Divans or bodies of poetry.

17. History, or, according to the etymology, strictly chronological annals. The remarkable characters of past times are the proper object of history, the design of the learner is to gain an idea of the past; the use of it, to draw from these examples conjectures and rules for the future. History is a second life, and an inexhaustible source of benefit. The author of the Key to Happiness separates biography from history, without sufficient reason. The known number of histories amount to 1300, all of which are alphabetically enumerated by Haji Khalfa. Fifteen of these (few of which are known in Europe even to Orientalists) are deemed classical.

Of history, the last branch of humanity, not fewer than 22 subdivisions are given.

The preparatory sciences.

Logic. Logic is the guide to all human knowledge, and teacheth the truth, the form, and limits of all things. It is the key of the rational sciences, the balance of meanings, and shews the strength and weakness of every science. It sharpens the understanding, unchains

The

the conceptions, and is the ornament of the mind, as philology is of speech. Aristotle was the inventor of this science.

The art of teaching, or criticism.

It is called Munaserit, from Hasar, he saw, because criticism regards its object in every point of view.

Dialectics. This is a middle science between criticism and polemics. Its object is disputation. Some sages say, that this science began to flourish as religion decayed, and that whoever devotes himself to it loses time, withdraws his attention from the law, and accustoms himself to a rude and quarrelsome tone, which is one of the symptoms of the end of the world. But this science sharpens the understanding, and is only injurious where time is wasted and no benefit derived from it.

Polemics. It differs from the preceding only in being confined to law and religion. Originally a person might in his actions and opinions follow the authority of any one he pleased, latterly he is restricted to one of the four Imams. The disciples of Malek and Shafei first distinguished themselves in polemics; the works of the former are more numerous, and were chiefly written in Andalusia.

Speculative philosophy. Philosophy is the study of truth in all things, whether material or spiritual; its end is perfection in this life, and eternal happiness in the next. Knowledge leads to action, which either is or is not in our own power. The first is practical, the second is speculative philosophy. Each has three parts; for practical philosophy considers either, 1. the moral conduct of man as an individual, and is then called *ethics;* 2. or as a member of a family, and is then called *domestic morals;* 3. or as a citizen, and is then called *politics*.

Speculative philosophy is either the knowledge, 1. of what exists merely in the understanding, as *mathematics;* 2. of what exists both in the understanding and in outward bodies, as *natural philosophy;* or, 3. is the knowledge of immaterial beings, as God and the soul, *metaphysics*.

Ibn Ehaledan says in his preface, "When the Moslems conquered Persia, and had found many books there, Saad-ed din Ebn Wakass wrote to the Khalif Omar for leave to preserve them, and have them translated for the use of the true believers; but Omar commanded him to throw them into the fire or the water, and so perished the sciences of Persia as well as of Egypt!"

The Khalif Abu Jafer Mansur sent an embassy to the Greek emperor, to request Greek books of science. He sent him Euclid and other philosophical works. Afterwards Mamûn, a great protector of learning, became Khalif. He sent ambassadors and interpreters to the Greek emperor, to entice the sciences from their home, and clothe them in an Arabian dress. Many have written voluminous commentaries upon Aristotle. The best are Alfarabi and Ben Siria in the east, Ben Rashid and the Vizier Ben Ussani in Andalusia. These sciences expired with the others in Andalusia; they flourished, however, longer in Irak, Iran, and Maweraimahr, and are to the present day cultivated

vated in christendom. They have died away in the Ottoman empire. With Ben Alhanayi ceased the animating breath of science. The chief cause was the outcry of some Muftis, who declaimed against the rational sciences. The fall of science, as Ebn Khaledan says, is the harbinger of a falling state. All wisdom and all power come from God the supreme.

Formerly all but the philosophical class were excluded from the study of philosophy. Before the promulgation of christianity, philosophy was publicly taught among the Greeks and Romans; but the Greeks, when converted to christianity, checked the progress of science, and burnt or buried such of their books as contradicted religion. The ancient Persians had translated a part of the Organon, treating of medicine, which was afterwards turned into Arabic by Abdallah ben Almokaffa. Khaled Ben Yezid ben Moawije, commonly called the Sage of the family of Merwan, was an intelligent and enterprizing lover of learning, and was the first who procured translations of Greek books. A very handsome man once appeared in a dream to Mamun, who enquired who he was. He replied, Aristotle. He asked the reason of his beauty. He answered, mine is the beauty of reason. To this dream we are indebted for the Greek translations.

1. Mathematics.

1. Arithmetic. The best system of education begins with this science, because it is luminous, and brightens the intellect. It is more or less useful in all sciences, and no king, sage, or merchant can do without it. Its branches are, Tangible arithmetic, or cyphering by counters or mechanical instruments, as practised in China.

Algebra. The ancients have left no work upon Algebra, either because they were unacquainted with it, or taught it by word of mouth. The moderns only know of the method of Archimedes in his second book on the sphere. It is said that Ben Musa, of Khowaresm, was the first who wrote an Algebraical work. The Chataian Arithmetic, or Rule of Proportion. Of the Division of Inheritances (which by the Mohammedan law are very complicated). The knowledge of coins. The division of legacies. Practice. Reckoning by the fingers, much practised by the Prophet and his disciples. The art of making magic squares. These squares are amulets, which have various properties, according to the conjunctions and aspects of the heavenly bodies under which they are prepared.

Of the virtues of numbers. The tactical arithmetic, or the art of drawing out armies in battle array.

2. Geometry.

The branches of geometry are—Architecture. Optics. Of burning glasses. Mechanics. Geometry in its most confined sense. Hydraulics. The knowledge of military weapons, offensive and defensive. The art of slinging, which, like archery, is a branch of the preceding. Chronometry. Horology: there are three ways of measuring time; by hour-glasses, water-clocks, and watches and clocks with wheels. Navigation. The art of travelling, or a knowledge of roads,

roads, inns, caravans, and other things requisite for a journey. Knowledge of pneumatic machines.

Astronomy is as much exalted above the other sciences as the heavens are above the earth.

Haji Khalfa next takes a concise view of the Ptolemaic system, and observes, that there are only 21,000 fixed stars, which are grouped into 48 constellations, of which 21 are in the northern hemisphere. The Turks have only eight names of the wind; those that blow from intermediate points of the compass they express by circumlocution. He then gives the method of marking the winds, as used by the Chinese, Persians, and Hindoos, who navigate the Eastern sea, as a specimen of a truly astronomical and scientific system. It assumes the rising and setting of 15 stars, by which it obtains thirty points, and adds two which it calls poles.

He gives a clear account of the nature of the compass, of the declination of the magnetic pole from the North pole, and of the theories of the magnetic fluid, internal magnet, &c. He says that vinegar or goat's blood will restore the attractive power to a needle that has lost it, and which property the smell of garlic destroys, and that it was discovered in 1040, on occasion of erecting a mosque, that the variation of the magnetic needle at Constantinople was 11° 30′ to the west.

The branches of astronomy are numerous, relating to the construction of tables, the use of instruments, the division of time, mensuration, geography, &c.

(To be continued.)

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ZEMBO AND NILA,

AN AFRICAN TALE.

WHERE the beauteous Niger roll'd
Thro' the land of slaves and gold,
On the brink a tyger lay,
Slumbering thro' the sultry day;
Stately palms their branches spread,
Cool and verdant o'er his head;
Deeply murmuring in his ear,
Rippling ran the river clear;
While the sun, in noon of light,
Like an eagle in his flight,
Borne upon the wings of time,
Tower'd in majesty sublime,
Earth and ocean, air and sky,
Basking in his boundless eye.

Soft as desert fountains flow,
Sweet as ocean-breezes blow,
Came a lonely negro-maid,
Where the sleeping brute was laid:
O what wild enchanting grace
Sparkled o'er her dimpled face,
While the moonlight of her eyes
Glow'd and glanced with fond surprize!
Bright thro' shadow beam'd her lips;
She was beauty in eclipse,
Sportive, innocent, and gay,
All in nature's disarray,
Unashamed as infancy
Dancing on the father's knee;
Fearless as the babe at rest,
Pillow'd on the mother's breast:
But to crown her conquering charms,
Pearly bracelets twined her arms,
Brilliant plumes her temples graced,
Flowery foliage wreath'd her waist;
The startled nymph, with silent awe,
The lovely dreadful monster saw,
Mark'd the sleek enamell'd pride
Of his variegated hide,
Marbled o'er with glossy dyes,
Like the peacock's spangled eyes:
Gently heaved the spotty chest
Of his broad tremendous breast;
Slumber smooth'd his hideous features,
Closed his eyes, terrific meteors,
Hush'd the thunder of his jaws,
Sheathed the lightning of his claws;
Harmless, beautiful, and mild,
Seem'd the savage grim and wild.
Nila's bosom o'er the sight
Swell'd from wonder to delight;
On the mossy bank reclining,
In her hands a garland twining,
Unaware of danger nigh,
All her soul was in her eye,
Till her tongue the silence brake,
And, transported, thus she spake:
" Lovely stranger! void of fear,
" Innocently slumbering here,
" Rest, secure in thy repose,
" From the rage of prowling foes;
" Never wanderer was betray'd
" In this hospitable shade:

" Calm

" Calm refreshing dreams attend thee!
" And the mighty gods defend thee!
" From the lion's ravening jaws;
" From the dread hyæna's paws;
" From the subtle panther's wiles,
" Lurking where the shrubbery smiles;
" From the snake, whose tainting breath
" Scatters pestilence and death;
" From the elephant, whose might
" Crushes armies in the fight;
" From the fangs of tygers ghaunt,
" Cruellest of fiends that haunt
" Forest, wilderness, or plain,
" Grimly strewn with victims slain,
" When, like whirlwind, flood, and fire,
" Irresistible in ire,
" Tygers—so my parents say—
" Gorge alive their shrieking prey,
" Then in frenzy of hot gore,
" Fiercer, feller than before,
" Still with quenchless thirst they burn,
" Headlong still to slaughter turn.
" Fiends like these the desert awe,
" Fiends that Nila never saw;
" On this silent solitude
" Those destroyers ne'er intrude,
" For my father keeps this grove,
" Sacred to the gods above;
" Nor beyond this shelter'd home,
" Dare his daughter's footsteps roam.
" Here then, charming stranger, rest,
" Nila's friend, companion, guest;
" With the sweetest herbs I'll feed thee,
" To the purest fountains lead thee;
" Here in gambols, wild and gay,
" Let us sport our lives away,
" And this blooming wreath shall be
" Nila's pledge of love to thee,
" While I crown thee thus with flowers
" Prince of these sequester'd bowers."
Sudden as the lightning's stroke
Glances on the splinter'd oak,
At her touch the tyger sprang,
With his voice the mountains rang,
One wild moment Nila stood,
Then plunged instinctive in the flood;
With a roar of thunder hollow,
As the monster leapt to follow,

Quick

Quick and keen, a venom'd dart,
Quiver'd in his cruel heart;
Round he reel'd in mortal pain,
Bit the barbed shaft in twain,
Groan'd and fell, and pour'd his breath
In a hurricane of death.
Lost as in a wandering dream,
Nila floated down the stream,
The conscious river swell'd with pride,
While buoyant on his circling tide,
Light as the silvery shadows sail
O'er corn-fields waving to the gale,
The gentle waters safely bore
The panting Naiad to the shore.
Zembo from the grove emerging,
Ran to meet the rescued virgin;
Zembo, whose victorious bow
Laid the treacherous tyger low;
Zembo, swiftest in the race,
Matchless in the savage chace;
Tall and shapely as the palm,
A storm in war, in peace a calm;
Black as midnight without moon,
Bold and undisguised as noon:—
—Zembo long had wooed in vain,
But while Nila scorn'd his pain,
Love's insinuating dart
Slid so slily through her heart,
That the nymph, in all her pride,
Sigh'd—yet scarcely knew she sigh'd.
Now she saw, with transport sweet,
Gallant Zembo at her feet;
Tho' her trembling lips were seal'd,
Love her hidden soul reveal'd:
Zembo read with glad surprize
All the secrets of her eyes;
Wild with joy his eager arms
Sprang to clasp her modest charms;
Startled, like the timid deer,
Nila fled with lovely fear;
He pursued the nimble maid
To the broad palmetto shade;
There the flowery wreaths she found,
Which the tyger's front had crown'd,
These on Zembo's brows she twined,
Whispering thus in accents kind:
" Noble youth! accept, tho' small,
" This reward;—'tis Nila's all;
" If my hero claims a higher,
" Yonder, Zembo—lives my Sire."

Sheffield. J. M.

VERSES ON SEEING SOME PAINTINGS,

The performance of a Lady of distinguished Talents, in the House where she lately died, in Glasgow.

AND is life's fleeting pageant o'er?
And does Paulina breathe no more?
Can that rich mind, so amply stor'd
With all that bard or sage explor'd,
The ardours of th' aspiring soul,
That stretch'd its views from pole to pole,
The pow'rs of genius and of art,
The active life, the liberal heart,
Can these be quench'd in total gloom,
And shrouded in the oblivious tomb?

Ah no! the cold forgotten grave,
Where sleep the tyrant and the slave,
Where, when their little hour is o'er,
And friends and kindred weep no more,
The vulgar herd unnoticed lie,
Nor wake the pang, nor prompt the sigh,
In vain would hide thy honour'd clay,
While o'er it living splendours play,
While rays of genius burst the gloom,
And shed their lustre o'er thy tomb.

Each wonted scene her form recalls,
She lives along yon glowing walls;
In every speaking form pourtrayed,
The pencil of the artist-maid
With nature holds a doubtful strife,
And warms the canvass into life.

Can language speak the nameless art
That chills the blood and wrings the heart,
Or trace his looks, whose dumb despair
Beholds the unsuspecting fair,
With all the charms, with all the truth,
And artless innocence of youth;
Her honour clear from falsehood's stains,
While venom circles through her veins,
O draw some friendly hand the veil!
And jealousy's dire deeds conceal.*

Where'er

* This alludes to a picture, distinguished for the forcible expression of the passions in the countenance of a lover, who, in a fit of frantic indignation at her supposed treachery, had administered poison to the innocent object of his affections. He is represented overwhelmed with the agony of remorse and horror, at the moment when the unsuspecting victim of his jealousy convinces him, too late, of her innocence. The subject of this very original and impressive painting is taken from the German tragedy of "The Minister."

Where'er I turn my wondering eyes,
I see some new illusion rise.
Th' illumin'd eye, the kindling cheek,
The opening lips, in act to speak,
The look austere, or aspect gay,
With silent eloquence would say,
" The skilful hand, expert to trace
" The genuine form, the living grace;
" The powerful mind, whose high command
" Was guide to that ingenious hand,
" In death's dark slumbers, lull'd in vain,
" Shall wake to higher life again."

O ye! who o'er th' untimely bier
Still pour the unavailing tear,
Fond parents! you whose chiefest pride
And joy with your Paulina died;
Who vainly hoped this transient blaze
Would warm and cheer your latest days;
While round her consecrated urn
The sister arts and virtues mourn,
And science sheds her rays divine,
No more in hopeless anguish pine.
O count but o'er the blessings past,
Too dear to lose, too rich to last,
And think what honours deck her name,
How blest her life, how fair her fame,
How short the absence you deplore;
Then bow submissive, and adore.

DOMESTIC MUSINGS.

Chide not his peace, proud reason; nor destroy
The shadowy forms of uncreated joy,
That urge the ling'ring tide of life, and pour
Spontaneous slumber on his midnight hour.

Campbell.

MY own beloved! with exceeding hope
I do desire the moment, that awaits
Our tranquil presence in that rural home;
There did thine eye beam pleasure, as it rov'd
Beneath the tow'ring elm-shade, and imbib'd
Refreshing greenness from the grassy lawn.
The stir and turmoil of the world have weigh'd
Heavily on my spirit: I have sigh'd
In solitude; have sigh'd to breathe the gale

Of

Of freedom; canopied by some green oak
While at the shady hill crag's verdant foot,
Gemm'd by the sun the brooklet sparkling play'd,
Tranc'd have I thrown my limbs, and seem'd to muse
The pensive page, or meditate the lay.
Midst crowded haunts of artificial life
Has nature pour'd her verdure on my view,
Her sunshine on my soul: has fancy wreath'd
The cottage-portal with her woodbine bow'r.
And now at length, the bliss of certain hope
Preys on my thought, like some unquiet thing;
Nor seldom when my realizing glance
In eagerness of its presagings, darts
O'er the dim future, do I feel a glow
As of predestin'd joy; beholding him
In whom again I live, child of my youth.
He shall not midst the smoak of cities draw
Polluted breath; but yon dilated heav'n
Wrap ev'ry sense in balm: his foot shall climb
The mountain, and shall print the ocean-shore;
His ear shall drink the melodies of birds,
And flocks; of winds, and rills, and whisp'ring boughs;
His eye shall gaze the sunset's ruddy light,
And grow enamour'd of the gliding moon:
And thus to him shall solitude become
A season of all pleasantness; and thoughts
Of virtue steal thro' beauty on his heart:
And he shall bear within himself a spell
To soothe each grief and ev'ry bliss refine;
A nameless and inseparable charm
Of lonely joy.
Beloved! dear art thou!
Yet for this precious pledge O doubly dear!
Hence do our natures intricately blend,
And in each other and in him, we feel
One vital impulse; nay, it seems we feel
One consciousness of being; dear thou art,
But doubly dear for this thy pledge of love.

CHARLES A. ELTON.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

Mr. Southey has nearly finished a translation from the Spanish of the interesting Chronicle of the Cid, which will shortly be put to press. Mr. Southey has not confined his translation to one book, but has brought together and woven into one narrative all that the poem of the Cid, the Chronicle of the Cid, and the general Chronicle of King Alonso contain. To the work will be prefixed a sketch

sketch of the previous history of Spain; and also, a critical and bibliographical account of the chief authors who have been consulted in it.

The late Dr. Symonds, Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, had devoted a considerable share of attention to the English language, with the view of rectifying the mistakes and inelegancies observable in the composition of our best writers. His numerous avocations prevented him from completing the work which he had meditated; but he had at the time of his death made considerable progress in the preparation of it. The part which he had finished, and which contains his remarks on British writers, will, we hope, be shortly published; and, from the ability of the author, the public will easily anticipate its value.

Dr. Beddoes has in the press, and nearly ready for publication, a work which he entitles Researches Anatomical and Practical on Fever, as connected with Inflammation.—He has also in contemplation a work of vast extent, comprising a collection of the original observers on Fever in all nations.

The Rev. W. J. Hort, of Bristol, has in the press a work which has long been a desideratum in the course of female education, comprising a short account of classical mythology, freed from those relations which render the generality of works on the same subject so improper for youthful readers of either sex, but which are so peculiarly unfit for the perusal of females.

A new edition of Davis's Life of Garrick is in great forwardness for publication. It will be enriched with a number of additional notes.

Mrs. Hurry has just finished three volumes of interesting Tales, which will be published in the course of the autumn.

Bishop Jeremy Taylor's Sermons are at present reprinting in three volumes in octavo, and will shortly be ready for publication.

A new edition of Barry's History of the Orkneys, with notes by the Rev. Mr. Hederick, is in the press.

Mr. Holland is reprinting his Essays on History, with considerable additions.

Dr. Cartwright has in the press a volume of Poems and Essays on various miscellaneous subjects.

Dr. Young, the author of a Course of Lectures on Natural Philosophy, delivered at the Royal Institution, is at present engaged on the compilation of a similar work on the various branches of Medical knowledge.

Dr. Cheyne will shortly publish a Dissertation on the Hydrocephalus Acutus, or Dropsy of the Brain; illustrated by a series of Clinical cases and dissections.

Mrs. Grant, the author of Letters from the Mountains, has in the press a new edition of the Highlanders, or Sketches of Highland Scenery and Manners, and other poems.

Mr. George Woodley, author of Mount Edgcombe, has a volume of Poems on various subjects in the press.

Shortly will be published, a new edition of "Thomas à Kempis of the Imitation of Christ." Translated from the Latin by George Stanhope, D.D. to which are added Prayers, &c. It will be handsomely printed in one vol. duodecimo, a convenient size for general distribution.

Mr. Taylor has announced his intention of publishing a translation of the Organon of Aristotle, with copious elucidations from the commentaries of Ammonius and Simplicius.

Mr. Charles Bell has in the press a new edition, being the third, of a System of Dissections, explaining the anatomy of the human body, and the manner of displaying the parts; with observations on the Morbid Anatomy and the investigation of the seat of disease. In 2 vols. 12mo. This third edition of the System of Dissections is given in two small volumes at the request of the students, that it may be better adapted to the use of the dissecting room. Although the work has met with a most favourable reception from the public hitherto, yet as it was originally written at a time when Mr. Bell was himself a student, the present edition must be more valuable, as it has received the complete revisal of the author. This, we believe, will be more particularly remarkable in that part of the work which treats of the morbid appearances.

St.

Mr. Bell's winter Course of Lectures on Anatomy and Surgery will commence at his house in Leicester-street, Leicester-square, on the second of October; and the Spring Course of Anatomical Lectures on the nineteenth of January. The Surgical Lectures commence shortly after the Anatomical part of the Course; and will be continued every Tuesday and Thursday evening during the continuance of that Course. Gentlemen not attending the Anatomical class are admitted to these Lectures on terms which may be learnt from Mr. Bell's advertisement. Mr. Bell, assisted by Mr. Robertson, delivers also private Courses of Lectures on the following subjects: The Brain, and the Organs of the Senses, with Lessons on Pathology; the Anatomy and Pathology of the Viscera, and on the Surgical Department of Anatomy.

The Autumnal Course of Lectures at ST. THOMAS'S AND GUY'S HOSPITALS will commence in the following order:

ST. THOMAS's.—ANATOMY and the OPERATIONS of SURGER, by Mr. CLINE and Mr. ASTLEY COOPER, on Thursday, Oct. 1st, at two o'clock.

PRINCIPLES and PRACTICE of SURGERY, by Mr. ASTLEY COOPER, on Monday, Oct. 5th, at eight in the evening.

GUY's.—PRACTICE of MEDICINE, by Dr. BABINGTON and Dr. CURRY, on Friday, Oct. 2d, at ten in the morning.

CHEMISTRY, by Dr. BABINGTON, Dr. MARCET, and Mr. ALLEN, on Saturday, Oct. 3d, at ten in the morning.

MIDWIFERY, and DISEASES peculiar to WOMEN and CHILDREN, by Dr. HAIGHTON, Monday, Oct. 5th, at eight in the morning.

PATHOLOGY, THUAPEUTICS, and MATERIA MEDICA, by Dr. CURRY and Dr. CHOLMELEY, Tuesday, Oct. 6, at eight in the evening.

PHYSIOLOGY, or LAWS of the ANIMAL ŒCONOMY, by Dr. HAIGHTON, Wednesday, Oct. 7, at seven in the evening.

EXPERIMENTAL PHILOSOPHY, by Mr. ALLEN, to begin in November.

CLINICAL LECTURES on Select Medical Cases, by Dr. BABINGTON, Dr. CURRY, and Dr. MARCET, to begin in November.

N. B. These several Lectures are so arranged as not to interfere in the hours of attendance, and the whole is calculated to form a complete Course of Medical and Surgical Instruction.

Terms and other particulars to be learnt from Mr. STOCKER, Apothecary to Guy's Hospital, who is empowered to enter Gentlemen as Pupils to such of the Lectures as are delivered at Guy's.

The Second Part of the Medical Observer, containing an impartial account of Quack Medicines, Copies of the Specifications from the Patent Office, with much interesting information relative to the practice of Quacks, will be published on the first of October next.

We have lately been favoured with a printed account of a new Literary Institution recently established in the town of Boston, North America, which reflects great credit on the inhabitants, and promises to be of great and permanent utility: it is denominated the Boston Athenæum, and is constituted, as to its general plan and object, much after the model of some of the public literary institutions in this country. It is to contain a READING ROOM, which is to be supplied with all the principal newspapers printed in America; with the most interesting literary and political pamphlets in Europe and America; magazines, reviews, and scientific journals in the English, French, and other modern languages; memoirs of learned societies; London and Paris newspapers; and various other periodical and ephemeral publications: a LIBRARY, which is to consist of rare and valuable books in various languages, besides the general course of works which are in daily request; particular classes of these are to be circulated among the members, and for this purpose the library is to be furnished with duplicates of them, that one copy may always remain on the shelves for the inspection or perusal of visitors: a MUSEUM or CABINET of Natural and Artificial Curiosities: a REPOSITORY of ARTS, to contain models of new and useful machines, and also specimens of painting, &c.: and lastly, A LABORATORY and APPARATUS for experiments in Natural Philosophy. It is proposed by the proprietors, when the institution shall be sufficiently matured

and established, to institute a course of lectures on literary and philosophical subjects. The plan appears to have been taken up with spirit, and will, we hope, soon meet with a success commensurate with its probable advantages.

We are now enabled to lay before our readers some farther particulars relating to the account of Lewis and Clarke's Tour to the Pacific Ocean across the Continent of America, of which we have already made some mention: it will extend to three volumes octavo, which will be published in succession. The first volume will contain a narrative of the voyage, with a description of some of the most remarkable places in those hitherto unknown wilds of America, accompanied by a map of good size, a large chart of the entrance of the Columbia river; embracing the adjacent country, coast, and harbours, and embellished with views of two beautiful cataracts of the Missouri; the plan, on a large scale, of the connected falls of that river, as also of those of the falls, narrows, and great rapids of the Columbia, with their several portages. For the information of future voyagers, there will be added in the sequel of this volume, some observations and remarks on the navigation of the Missouri and Columbia rivers, pointing out the precautions which must necessarily be taken in order to ensure success, together with an itinerary of the most direct and practicable route across the continent of North America, from the confluence of the Missouri and Missisippi rivers to the discharge of the Columbia into the Pacific Ocean.

Volume second.—Whatever properly appertains to geography, embracing a description of the rivers, mountains, climate, soil, and face of the country; a view of the Indian nations distributed over that vast region, shewing their traditions, habits, manners, customs, national characters, stature, complexion, dress, dwellings, arms, and domestic utensils, with many other interesting particulars in relation to them; also observations and reflections on the subjects of civilizing, governing, and maintaining a friendly intercourse with those nations. A view of the fur trade of North America. This volume will be embellished with twenty plates, illustrative of the dress and general appearance of such Indian nations as differ materially from each other; of their habitations, their weapons and habiliments used in war, their hunting and fishing apparatus, domestic utensils, &c. In an appendix there will be given a diary of the weather, kept with great attention throughout the whole of the voyage, shewing also the daily rise and fall of the principal water-courses which were navigated in the course of the same.

The third volume will be confined exclusively to scientific research, and principally to the natural history of those hitherto unknown regions. It will contain a full dissertation on such subjects as have fallen within the notice of the author, and which may properly be distributed under the heads of Botany, Mineralogy, and Zoology, together with some strictures on the origin of Prairies, the cause of the muddiness of the Missouri, of volcanic appearances, and other natural phenomena which were met with in the course of this interesting tour. This volume will also contain a comparative view of twenty-three vocabularies of distinct Indian languages, procured by Captains Lewis and Clark on the voyage, and will be ornamented and embellished with a much greater number of plates than will be bestowed on the first part of the work, as it is intended that every subject of natural history which is entirely new, and of which there are a considerable number, shall be accompanied with an appropriate engraving illustrative of it.

Dr. Samuel Miller, of New York, has lately published a series of Letters, addressed to the members of the united Presbyterian churches of that city, of which he is a minister, concerning the constitution and order of the Christian Ministry, as deduced from scripture and primitive usage. This able and learned work will, we understand, shortly make its appearance from the English press.

The new organization of the Academy of sciences at Munich still occupies the attention of the Bavarian government. Its labours are to be more extensive than those of any similar institution in Europe, for it is to have, under the direction of the ministry, immediate superintendance over all the establishments for public instruction in the kingdom of Bavaria. The president of the Academy

Academy is to be the privy-counsellor Jacobi, a man respected throughout Germany as well for his philosophical writings as for his personal character. Among the other academicians whose names have been announced to the public are those of M. Seyffer, an astronomer, late director of the observatory of Gottingen; M. Eichorn, the celebrated historian and orientalist, also from Gottingen; M. Wiebeking, from Vienna, distinguished for his knowledge in hydraulics; and M. Wolf, known by a valuable History of the Jesuits. The royal library at Munich, already very considerable, is about to be augmented by a commission empowered to extract for it every valuable article found in the suppressed libraries. The collection of pictures at Munich, by the addition of the galleries of Manheim and Dusseldorff, is become the finest in Europe, next to the Napoleon museum.

The galleries of Salzthalen, belonging to the late Duke of Brunswick, and of Cassel, are both destined for France, as the spoils of conquest.

Germany has lately lost an estimable poetess, Mad. Sophia Brentano, in the flower of her age, not less amiable for her private character than distinguished for her talents. Her works, first known under the name of Sophia Chereau, were extremely popular on account of the correctness and harmony of the versification, the beauty of the imagery, and tenderness of the sentiments. At a very early age she composed the poem of "Seraphina." Her other publications were some very interesting novels, translations from the Italian and French, and a number of charming poems.

A German at Rome, M. Singer, has obtained from the pontifical government an exclusive privilege for carbonising turf or peat from the pontine marshes, in order to be employed as fuel, an article very scarce and dear in that capital.

The new king of Naples is about to form an Academy of History and Antiquities, to consist of forty members, besides correspondents in the provinces.

M. John Maelzl, of Vienna, has visited Paris, in order to submit to the judges of music in that capital a piece of mechanism of his invention, which he calls *Panharmonicon*. This machine, which is moved entirely by springs, gives the sound of all wind instruments with a purity and perfection which art has never before attained. It combines the following instruments: the German flute, small flute, clarinet, hautbois, bassoon, horn, trombone, serpent, and trumpet. It performs pieces of music with great precision, marking perfectly all the shades of piano and forte. The execution of the trumpet is particularly surprizing.

M. Lassus, surgeon in Paris, a member of the Institute, librarian to that establishment, a professor in the Medical School, and consulting surgeon to the Emperor, died lately at the age of 66, much esteemed and regretted. He was a man of extensive learning, and well acquainted with the fine arts. He translated from the English with elegance and accuracy several works in surgery, and published two original works entitled, "Traité dogmatique de Medecine Operatoire," and "Traité de Pathologie chirurgicale." The last had just appeared before his death.

A curious instance of academical adulation has lately been given by the university of Leipzig. On account of the presence of *Napoleon the Immortal* in their country, and his close connection with their sovereign (the king of Saxony) the heads of the university have resolved henceforth to call by the name of *Napoleon* that group of stars which lies between the girdle and sword of Orion; and a numerous deputation of the university has been appointed to present the monarch with a map of his new sovereignty in the skies, which he will doubtless prize much beyond any petty German principality. It will remain to be seen whether the other astronomers in Europe will adopt this appellation. The *Georgium sidus* has not had much fortune on the continent.

In the Petersburgh Gazette an account is given from a report of the governor of Irkutsk, of the discovery of a mass of ruins 35 wersts from the frontiers of China, which appear to have belonged to a very considerable city. They consist of shapeless hillocks, heaps of decayed bricks, and the remains of ramparts, overgrown in great part with large trees. Orders have been given by the government for an accurate examination of them.

M. Frydenberg, a physician of Iceland, has sent to the Economical Society of Copenhagen

Copenhagen a memoir concerning the means of converting a marine plant called *see-tang*, with which the shores of that island are covered, into aliment for the human species.

The celebrated metaphysician, professor Fichte, has left Berlin, where he was living as a p ivate person, to occupy a chair of philosophy in the university of Konigsberg.

Dr. Olbers, of the observatory at Bremen, discovered on March 29th a second new planet. It is well known that the planet called Pallas was his former discovery.

At Basil has been published a "Voyage pittoresque de Bâle," in a folio of 36 plates, after the designs of the landscape painter Birmann, with explanations.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

AGRICULTURE.

A Catalogue of Books on Agriculture, Planting, Gardening, Rural Architecture, Landscape Gardening, Sporting, Farriery, and other subjects of domestic and rural economy; including the Laws relating to estates, inclosures, tithes, game, and rural affairs in general. 12mo. 6d.

The first Number (embellished with two engravings, a new Turnip Drill and a Draining Mole Plough) of a new Monthly Publication, entitled, The Agricultural Magazine, or the Farmer's Monthly Journal of Husbandry and Rural Affairs. Conducted by R. W. Dickson, M. D. author of Practical Agriculture, and honorary Member of the Board of Agriculture. Price 1s. 6d.

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Memoirs of the Life of the Great Condé, written by his Serene Highness the Prince of Condé, his Great Grandson, now in England. Translated by Fanny Holcroft. 8vo. 9s. boards.

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Oriental Voyages, or descriptive Sketches and cursory Remarks on a Voyage to India and China, in his Majesty's Ship the Caroline, performed in the years 1803, 4, 5, and 6. By J. Johnson, Esq. 8vo. 10s. 6d. boards.

METEOROLOGICAL

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

			Wind	Pressure max.	Pressure min.	Temp. max.	Temp. min.	Evap.	Rain,&c
New M.		July 5	E	29.93	29.87	77°	50°	———	
		6	NE	30.08	29.93	70	40	.45	
		7	E	30.19	30.08	66	40	.18*	
		8	N	30.19	30.16	73	42	.20	
	a.	9	Var.	30.16	29.98	80	54	.16	
		10	NW	29.98	29.68	84	57	.14	
	b.	11	SW	29.72	29.58	80	58	———	1
1st. Q.	*c.*	12	SW	29.78	29.72	80	60	.53*	1
		13	SW	———	———	79	59	———	1
	d.	14	SW	29.81	29.78	70	60	.40	
	d.	15	SW	29.80	29.78	72	56	.14*	
		16	W	29.90	29.80	72	58	.12	
		17	W	29.95	29.87	75	59	.18	
		18	W	29.99	29.97	73	52	.19	
Full M.		19	SW	———	———	81	61	———	
		20	W	29.81	29.78	78	57	.44	
		21	Var.	———	———	79	57	———	
		22	Var.	29.75	29.64	88	65	.54	
		23	Var.	29.64	29.58	81	62	———	
	d.	24	SW	29.68	29.60	77	57	———	
		25	SW	29.78	29.69	82	59	———	
		26	SW	29.82	29.70	77	55	.82	.01
L. Q.		27	SW	29.91	29.83	76	51	———	
		28	W	29.92	29.78	81	55	———	
		29	SW	29.78	29.58	81	63	———	
		30	SW	29.63	29.58	72	60	.90	.25
		31	SW	29.66	29.55	71	55	———	
		Aug. 1	S	29.80	29.66	76	47	———	
		2	W	29.77	29.75	78	55	.51	.07
				29.86	29.76	76.86	55.31	5.90. In.	
				M. 29.81		M. 66.08		In.	0.36

N. B. The Notations comprised in each Line relate to a period of 24 hours reckoned *from* 9 a. m. on the day of the date. A dash denotes that the period so marked is to form a part of that allotted to the next observation.

REMARKS.

REMARKS.

a. The cockchaffer begins to appear in great numbers. A cat is observed to pursue these insects every evening, feasting on them with avidity.

b. A sudden shower of rain, which was sensibly *warm*, and strongly charged *pos.*; some thunder and lightning followed, and a storm was visible just above the horizon in the N. till 11 p. m.

c. Thunder and lightning in the night, with a little rain. An ox was struck dead in the level opposite Woolwich, and found at 5 a. m. the 13th, with the hair singed and the body beginning to putrify.

d. Slight showers.

RESULTS.

Prevailing Winds West and South-west.	
Mean elevation of Barometer	29.81 In.
Mean Temperature - -	66.08°
Rain, - - - - - - -	0.36 Inches
Evaporation - - - -	5.90 Inches

Plaistow, 10th of 8mo. 1807. L. H.

RESULTS

Of a Register kept by Mr. Thomas Hanson, of Manchester.

Mean Pressure of the Barometer 29,67*—Highest 30,18—Lowest 29,30—Range 00,88.

Mean Temperature 63,87*—Highest 78°—Lowest 54°—Range 24°.

Dew Point.—Highest 64°—Lowest 44°—Range 20°.

Rain this Month 2,505 inches. Total this year 15,160 inches.

Strongest Winds on the 2d, 11th, and 27th.

The general aspect of this month, for the most part, has been cloudy, with considerable more thunder and lightning than in any of the preceding months of this year.*

The Mean Temperature has been higher than that of the last month; the gravity of the air has been in constant fluctuation, but its range very limited; from the beginning of the month to about the 21st very little rain appeared, as will appear in the Table, but since upwards of two inches have fallen.

* Several people have lost their lives in consequence; a man was killed at Stockport; another man lost his life at Bolton; at Brislington, in Derbyshire, a labourer, whilst standing under a tree during a thunder storm, was struck dead; at Hulme, near Manchester, one of the trees was stripped of a large piece of bark; the same time, in Oldfield-lane, several windows were broken, and the electric fluid was seen to move along the fields with great celerity.

Manchester, Aug. 3, 1807.

INTELLIGENCE

RELATIVE TO ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent Rotary Steam-Engine of Mr. Richard Wilcox, of Lambeth, Surrey.

THIS steam-engine consists of an outer fixed cylinder, and an inner revolving one, each furnished with pieces called pallets, or with cocks, so contrived, that in passing each other they are moved in such a manner as to recede from each other's way, but in all other parts of the circle in which they move they project so as to traverse the space between the two cylinders and form steam tight partitions; one of which being fixed and the other moveable, the steam, pressing between both, forces the moveable one round, and with it the moveable cylinder, whose axis gives motion to the machinery, to work which the steam engine is erected. At one side of the fixed pallet is a valve, which by a pipe communicates with the boiler, and an other is placed at the other side, which leads to the condenser, both which are worked by means similar to that in common use.

The specification of this patent contains twelve figures, most of which are descriptive of various methods of applying and managing the pallets or cocks between the two cylinders. Figures 1 and 2 represent the way of applying single pallets revolving on an upright axis; figures 7 and 8 exhibit the manner of using double pallets; figures 4 and 5 shew the mode of placing two kinds of sliding plates for the same purpose, one of which moves vertically round an axis at one side into a recess contrived to receive it, and the other is made to slide up and down from a similar recess by a rod passing through a stuffing-box; the axis of the first sort also passes through a stuffing-box, and as it is turned round raises or depresses the sliding plate with which it is connected. Figure 10 represents the manner of using an apparatus instead of the sliding plates or pallets, called a cock by the patentee, from its resemblance to the turning part of the cock of a cask; it lies in a semi-cylindrical case in the side of the external cylinder, and is so shaped that when turned in one position a portion of its side forms part of the external cylinder, and permits a pallet fixed to the revolving cylinder to pass it; but when turned, so as to be at right angles to the first position, another part of its side comes in contact with the surface of the revolving cylinder, and prevents the steam from passing by it. Figure 11 exhibits the manner of fixing cocks to the revolving cylinder, and an immoveable pallet to the external cylinder. Figure 12 shews a method of making the cocks act both as pallets for moving the rotary part and as valves for regulating the admission of the steam. Figures 3, 6, and 9 shews different detached parts of the engine.

The ends of the cylinders are to be made steam-tight by rings which press the packing against them, and which are tightened by screws; and the edges of the pallets are made steam-tight by a hemp cloth, stuffed, wadded, or folded together.

The part of the surface of the cock, which comes in contact with the revolving cylinder, has a longitudinal groove or rabbet cut down it, into which a piece of metal is fitted, that is pressed against the cylinder by screws, springs, or elastic packing, so as to come in close contact with the revolving cylinder; as this piece is worn it is packed closer to the cylinder, and when it is entirely worn out another piece of the same sort is put in.

As no packing will work well or last long without a frequent supply of liquid grease or oil, a hole is drilled through the spindle of the cock or of the pallet down into its body, and another from thence horizontally to the parts of it in immediate contact with the cylinder; a funnel is placed outside, with a pipe from it passing into the hole made in the spindle, with a regulating cock annexed to it, between the spindle and funnel, by which the oil can be let down at pleasure to lubricate the working parts, without stopping the engine.

In order to encrease the power of the engine, the patentee directs that two or more sets of pallets or gates may be added to it, by which the steam or the impelling fluid is caused to act in two or more places at the same time.

A fall

A fall of water may be made to turn an engine of this sort as well as the pressure of steam. The specification mentions, that all elastic or dense fluids are applicable to it. By elastic fluids, it is supposed, gases are meant; but it is not very probable that any other fluid or vapour will be used with it but water or steam.

This engine may also be used to give motion to water or air, if set in motion by external means. When used with water in this way, it will serve for a pump or extinguishing engine; and when used to impel air, it will answer the same purpose as large bellows.

The last clause of the specification relates to the shape of the engine, which may be made to work with concentrical conical barrels as well as with those of a cylindrical form.

This patent is dated May, 1806.

This Rotary engine resembles in most circumstances one for which Mr. Andrew Flint took out a patent in Nov. 1805. The contrivance of the pallets and cocks are nearly similar, particularly those described in the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth figures; the contrivance for packing the bottoms of the cylinders by rings is also the same as that contrived by Mr. Flint. A material defect, however, existed in Mr. Flint's engine, in which there was no contrivance for stuffing the edges of the cocks or pallets which came in contact with the revolving cylinder, and for repairing them when worn. This Mr. Wilcox has carefully attended to in his engine, and has well provided both for the stuffing and repairs of this part.

The contrivance for oiling the working parts, from the outside of the engine seems also to be first thought of by Mr. Wilcox; and that also for encreasing the number of the pallets. This last will equalize the motion of the engine and prevent its being liable to stop, which might sometimes happen with a single pair of pallets, unless a fly-wheel was added. The force of the engine would certainly be augmented by encreasing the number of pallets, provided the boiler was also enlarged so as to supply the greater quantity of steam which would then be required; but as its complication and the trouble of stuffing would also be encreased, and particularly the *consumption of fuel*, there could be no advantage in having more than two sets of pallets, which number would be sufficient for the first objects mentioned.

Mr. Wilcox's engine may be better considered as an improvement on that of Mr. Flint, than as an original invention. How far Mr. Wilcox can use the stuffing rings and cocks contained in Mr. Flint's specification is a point for law to decide; but as Mr. Flint's engine is imperfect without Mr. Wilcox's addition, perhaps it would be better for the two patentees to unite their interests than to contest the right.

The union of Mr. Flint's and Mr. Wilcox's contrivances forms the most perfect Rotary Engine we know of, having less complication, less friction, and less difficulty of packing, and of being kept steam tight. But Rotary Steam Engines must be so much more complicated and liable to derangement, and suffer so much more friction than those of the common form; that although on a first view they appear to have an advantage over the latter, in not experiencing that loss of momentum from the interruption of motion at every change of the direction of the pisten to which they are liable, yet this defect is so well compensated in them by the action of the fly, and so much dimished by the judicious manner of stopping the admission of steam before the course of the piston is terminated (first introduced by Mr. Watts) that every circumstance being considered, we are inclined to think the common repercussive engine is likely to continue preferable to any rotary steam engine.

The specification of Mr. Flint's patent, above-mentioned, may be found in the Repertory of Arts, No. 55; and a review of the powers of his engine, and several other rotary steam engines, may be seen in the Retrospect of Philosophical and Mechanical Discoveries, vols. 1 and 2, published by Mr. Wyatt, Hatton Garden.

Patent

Patent Method of preparing and manufacturing a certain animal Substance as a Substitute for horse and other Hair used for stuffing Mattrasses, Cushions, &c. by Charles Random de Berenger, of Hart-street, London.

The substance which the patentee proposes to substitute for the horse hair commonly used for stuffing cushions, is the hair of the bodies of swine, distinct from the bristles; long hair of large hogs is the best, but even that of pigs may be made use of.

The following method of preparing this hair is directed by the patentee.

After killing the hog, the hair is to be scraped off in the usual manner; it is then to be washed clean, and thrown into lime water, where it is to remain from one to two days; this destroys any fleshy substance remaining with the hair, and prevents putrefaction. The hair taken from the lime water is to be washed well in pure water, and then is to be twisted into a cord about the thickness of a goose quill; this cord is to be forced tightly into tubes of tin, three quarters of an inch in diameter, and about thirty inches long, by a stick. When the tubes are full they are to be corked up at both ends, and placed in a copper of boiling water, and to continue in the water, still kept boiling, for two hours. The hair is then to be taken out of the tubes, and left to cool as it is, and is afterwards to be picked asunder, when it will be quite curly. Some of it is then to be thrown loosely into large earthen pans, with fine dry sand at the bottom, so as to form a layer, over which more dry sand is to be sifted, and over that another layer of hair, and so on till the pans are filled, which are then to have brown paper tied over them, and to be put into an hot oven, where they are to remain for three or four hours. (The heat must not be sufficient to burn the brown paper, but nearly so.) When the whole is quite cold the sand is to be separated by a sieve, and the hair will be found fit for use, having obtained a good curl and a fine elastic power. The hair may be twisted as directed, by a wheel or other machine commonly used for twisting; the cords twisted need not be long, and the hair should be damped previous to the operation.

If mattrasses made with hair thus prepared are found to be as good as others, it may be worth while to cut the hair from live hogs for this purpose, which may thus be procured in much larger quantities.

Description of a Boat, contrived so as to possess superior Staunchness and Strength, by Mr. I. W. Boswell.—Rept. of Arts, No. 62.

The object of the construction of this boat was to unite lightness and strength to staunchness, which are desirable qualities in all boats, but particularly in those intended, as this was, for ship's use.

This boat externally resembles a carvel-built boat, being smooth outside, and having seams caulked in the same manner, but having its planks much thinner; at the inside it has narrow slips of wood, about two inches broad, fastened exactly opposite the seams, and so as to lap over the edge of each adjoining plank about an inch, to which they are secured by rivetting nails. The ribs have square notches cut into them, corresponding to the places of the slips, so that they may lie close to the planks in every part as usual. The slips prevent the oakum from being driven through the seams in caulking, to which it would be liable on account of the thinness of planks, and when driven in retain it well by the gripe they have of that part of it which turns up at right angles to the seam between them and the planks.

The slips, by being let into the external part of the ribs, are so secured to them that they form altogether a compact framing that adds much to the strength of the boat endways and fore and aft; and they encrease the strength from inside to outside across the planks so much, that on this account the ribs may be put farther asunder in boats of this construction than in those of the common make. The whole strength at the place of the slips is as the square of the thickness of the part of the side opposite to them, or to the square of their thickness

thickness and that of the plank united; which, as they are of the same thickness as the planks, will be equal to thrice the strength of the plank in that part, or to the strength of the plank as four to one.

Carvel-built boats must have planks of a certain thickness, or they cannot well retain the oakum in their seams; wherefore, as carvel-building would, if used for small boats, require planks so thick as to make them very heavy, clinch building is usually preferred for them; but clinch building is on the other hand liable to a defect, which is very inconvenient in ships' boats, which often lying dry a long time on deck, are exposed to have their seams opened by the weather; for, in caulking clinched seams, as the planks lap over each other a little adjoining to them, the caulking irons act as wedges to force them open, which being farther aided by the elastic force of the oakum tending to separate them, the very operation of caulking, intended to close the interstices of the seams, has a contrary effect, and moreover demonstrably weakens the whole framing of the boat every time it is repeated, by drawing the planks somewhat off from the nails or other fastenings which secure them to the ribs.

But a boat of the construction described in this paper may be built equally light as a clinch-built boat, and will at the same time have its seams more tight than a carvel-built boat, for the reasons before stated, and equally fit for repeated caulking without injury to the boat.

The boat formed as before explained was built in June, 1803, at Bursledon, near Southampton, in the yard of Mr. J. Ewer, for the use of the ship Economy, then building in the same place on Mr. Boswell's construction, and under his direction. The boat accompanied the ship to London in April, 1804, and remained with her in the river till she sailed to Grenada and Trinidad in the August following. As it was thought to be too heavy for a jolly-boat by the Captain of the Economy, and as a large launch was carried out in the ship to be left at Grenada, which made a boat of any other description unnecessary, he left this boat behind in care of Mr. Forest, boat-builder, broad street, Radcliffe, near Radcliffe-cross, by whom it was sold to a master of a vessel, who took it out of the river with him in the beginning of 1805.

The numbers of people who saw the boat in Bursledon, in the West India Docks, London Dock, and various parts of the river during the periods mentioned, and the public manner in which it was exhibited, is indubitably sufficient to establish Mr. Boswell's claim to the invention of this mode of constructing boats; which was his principal motive for publishing these and other particulars relative to the boat in the Repertory of Arts, as Mr. Wilson, of Richard-street, Commercial Road, had given in to the Society for Arts, &c. a model of a boat, the internal framing of which was fabricated in a similar manner, with the addition of the hollow projecting gunpels, for which Mr. Lionel Lukin obtained a patent in 1785, to be used as a life-boat, stating the whole as his invention, for which the Society, not being aware of these circumstances, lately voted Mr. Wilson a medal.

Mr. Boswell claimed the invention of the framing of the boat at the public meeting of the Society in May last, when he attended to receive the gold medal voted him for the invention of a capstan on a new and very simple principle, which operates, without requiring the messenger, or cable used with it, to be surged; but he mentions that neither then, or in his publication on the subject, had he any intention of blaming the Society for rewarding Mr. Wilson for the invention of others, as most of the members are gentlemen remote in residence and connection from shipping concerns, who might well be supposed unacquainted with the facts stated, without any want of attention on their parts.

The ship Economy, mentioned above, is built on a peculiar construction internally, designed to admit of the use of small timber in the fabrication of large vessels, and so contrived by the internal framing as to afford more strength for an equal quantity of timber than the common method of ship-building. The specification of the patent for this method of building ships, and descriptive of it, may be seen in the Repertory of Arts, vol. ii. p. 81, and a farther account of the construction is inserted in the fourth volume of the same work,

work, p. 430, of which in a future number an abstract shall be given. The ship has lately performed her second voyage to the West Indies, and though in both voyages she experienced very rough weather, has not had a single joint of her framing opened more that when she was launched. The strength of the construction is acknowledged by all competent judges, and as its adoption in the navy would not only save the nation vast sums in the first cost of timber, but deliver it from the risk it fast approaches of a deficiency of large ships, from the encreasing scarcity of timber of the great size required for them, in the common method of building, it is to be hoped that the repeated trials of the strength of the Economy that have been made will at length satisfy the most scrupulous at the Navy Board, that neither the public service or their personal interest can suffer the smallest injury from giving Mr. Boswell's patent method of building large ships with small timber a fair trial in one or more vessels of war built in this manner.

On the proper Mode of inuring tender Plants to our Climate, by the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K. B. F. R. S.—Trans. Hort. Soc.

Sir Joseph Banks first states the advantage it would be to inure tender plants, natives of warmer climates, to bear the severities of our's, and then maintains that several which were formerly kept in stoves are now reared in the open garden; as the gold tree, Aucuba Japonica, the mountain Pæonia frutescens.

In the case of annuals he states, this is effected with little trouble, as all that is required is to enable them to ripen their fruit in a comparatively cold summer, after which the hardest frost will have no power to injure the seed; but a perennial has to encounter frosts with its buds and annual shoots, that have sometimes been so severe with us as to rend asunder the trunks of our indigenous forest trees. It is probable that wheat did not bring its seed to perfection in our climate till hardened to it by repeated sowings. A few years ago some spring wheat, brought from Guzerat, was sown with barley in a well cultivated field; it rose, eared and blossomed, but many ears were wholly without corn, and few brought more than three or four grains to perfection.

In 1791 some seeds of Zizania aquatica were procured from Canada, and sown in a pond at Spring Grove, near Hounslow. It grew and produced strong plants, which ripened their seeds; these seeds vegetated in the succeeding spring, but the plants they produced were weak, slender, not half so tall as those of the first generation, and grew in the shallowest water only; the seeds of these plants produced others the next year sensibly stronger than their parents of the second year. In this manner the plants proceeded, springing up every year from the seeds of the preceding one, every year becoming visibly stronger and larger, and rising from deeper parts of the pond, till the year 1804, when several of the plants were six feet high, and the whole pond was in every part covered with them, as thick as wheat grows in a well-managed field.

This experiment proves, that an annual plant, scarcely able at first to endure the ungenial summer of England, has in fourteen generations become as strong and vigorous as our indigenous plants, and as perfect as in its native climate.

The bay tree has been cultivated more than two centuries in England, and the laurel was introduced some years before 1629 by Master Cole, a merchant, living at Hampstead, at which time we had in our gardens Oranges, Myrtles, Cypress, Lauristinus, Phillyrea, Alaternus, Arbutus, a Cactus from Bermuda, and a passion flower, which flowered here, and whose seeds sprung from the ground a month sooner than plants from roots brought from Virginia. Those plants were then tender plants, and are so still, notwithstanding the long time they have been in this country; but they have always been raised from suckers and cuttings, and never from seeds produced here, though many of them ripen their seeds in this climate; so that the very laurel introduced by Master Cole, and the other plants mentioned, are now actually growing in our gardens, which accounts for such plants not becoming hardier, as probably they would have done had they passed through several generations, by being raised from British seeds.

From

From these considerations Sir Joseph proposes to sow the seeds of such shrubs as occasionally ripen them in our climate, after the example of the experiment on the Zizania, which in fourteen years became completely naturalized to our climate.

In plants that require some years to arrive at puberty, fourteen generations are more than a man can hope to survive; but a much less number will in many cases be sufficient, and even one generation may work a change of importance in some cases; and if we could even make the myrtle bear the climate of Middlesex as well as it does that of Devonshire, it would be a desirable acquisition.

The settlement made at New Holland promises to give a large scope to these experiments, as several plants brought from thence bear our climate with very little protection.

Sir Joseph has set the example in experiments of this nature on the laurel and myrtle, and calls on his juniors to follow him in proving the theory which he has brought forward, by trials through a succession of more generations than he can expect to see.

It may be useful to some, to whom the above facts may prove interesting, to know that a very valuable paper on the same subject was published some time ago in the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, by Mr. Templeton, it has been since inserted in the Repertory of Arts, vol. ii. p. 31, and we much recommend its perusal. It may also be of use to suggest the propriety of trying the seed of spring wheat from Sweden or Norway, where it is in general use, instead of that from climates hotter than our's.

Erratum in No. 8. p. 187. *l.* 24.—*for* Shetland *read* Scotland.

OBITUARY OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

De la Lande.

Joseph-Jerome le Francais de la Lande, member of the legion of honour, of the Institute, of the board of longitude, professor of astronomy in the college of France, was born at Bourg, in the department of l'Ain, on July 11, 1732, of respectable parents. He was destined to the bar, and came to Paris for the study of jurisprudence, when the view of the observatory developed to him a propensity which deranged his father's plans, and became the ruling passion of his life. He was kindly received by the celebrated astronomer le Monnier, from whose lessons he profited in such a manner as to acquire his affectionate regard and esteem. So rapid was his advance, that at the age of 19 he was nominated, through the recommendation of le Monnier, the commissioner of the Academy of Sciences, to go to Berlin in order to determine the parallax of the moon, in concert with M. Lacaille, who was to perform the same operation at the Cape of Good Hope. The account of his mission which he gave at his return opened to him the doors of the Academy, from which time to the period of its suppression there was not a single volume of its transactions in which an important memoir of his did not appear. The active part which he took in the labours of the Academy was not limited to astronomical observations. He published the French edition of Halley's Tables, and the History of the Comet of 1759; and he furnished Clairault with immense calculations for the theory of that famous comet. Being charged in 1760 with the compilation of the "Connoissance des Temps," he entirely changed the form of the work, and gave it that which it bears at present. Of this collection he published 17 volumes.

In 1764 appeared the first edition of his great "Traité Astronomique," a classical work, which he has since perfected. He composed all the astronomical articles for the Yverdun Encyclopedia, and new cast the whole for the Encyclopedie Methodique.

To

To his written lessons he joined, during 46 years, oral instructions. In 1761, he had succeeded his first master Delille in the astronomical chair at the college of France; and he taught with so much ability that his school became a seminary of disciples who peopled the observatories. In the midst of his labours he drew up his "Voyage d'Italie," which is the most complete collection of curious objects that travellers can consult; his "Traité des Canaux;" and his "Bibliographie Astronomique," a vast catalogue of all the works which have appeared on this science.

Associated to all the distinguished scientific societies, he was their common bond of union by the correspondences which he maintained, and promoted a circulation of intelligence from one to another. He employed the credit arising from the universal reputation he enjoyed, for the general benefit of the sciences and their cultivators.

To the extraordinary ardour and activity of his character he joined a love for truth which approached the borders of fanaticism. Every degree of concealment appeared to him unworthy of an honest man; and he therefore, without any reserve, uttered his sentiments on all occasions. It may easily be conceived, that in his long career, and while he sometimes assumed the tone of superiority, which he thought justified by his long services, he would wound the self-love of more than one individual; but he was sensible of the fault, and endeavoured to repair it. The high consideration which he obtained would probably, with prudence and circumspection, have secured him an enviable lot to the end of his days; but the habit of speaking his mind, which he did not lay aside in the most stormy times, and upon topics where he might have been silent, or without any opinion, together with the bluntness with which he sometimes refuted the systems of ignorance, animated against him a crowd of detractors, who proceeded so far as to call in question his undoubted merits. His long and durable services were forgotten in the recollection of some temporary deviations of no importance; and in some discussions where he was wrong only in the form, he was overwhelmed with insults, which he had the good sense to despise, if not to prevent. His character was a compound of great and commendable qualities and little singularities. He was, on the whole, a man of real and distinguished merit, who, perhaps, in every respect, can never be replaced. He rendered inestimable service to science during his life, and has consulted its interests after his death by founding the prize of a medal which the Institute annually awards to the author of the best astronomical memoir or the most curious observation. He died at Paris on April 4th, 1807, of a pulmonary decay, in the 75th year of his age.

CHARLES M'CORMICK, LL. B.

Died, on the 29th of July last, CHARLES M'CORMICK, LL. B. in the sixty-fifth year of his age; a man of excellent heart and profound erudition. He was a native of Ireland, and descended of a race at one time distinguished for hospitality and love of letters in that country. His father brought up a large family on a few paternal acres; his industry and economy enabled him to give his children an education suitable to their prospects in life. The subject of this sketch was his second son, and having early evinced a love for reading and information, the good old man determined that a disposition so laudable and congenial to his own should be indulged as far as his slender patrimony would reasonably admit. It luckily happened that a schoolmaster settled in the neighbourhood, a man of real classical learning, who did not bewilder the imagination of the pupil with subtile grammatical distinctions, and strings of exceptions to general rules, which but too often disgust boys on their entrance on the Latin tongue. The excellence of the teacher in a few years could be traced in the rapid progress of the scholar in Roman and Grecian literature. He had treasured up all that was precious in those languages, and could relish their beauties and even illustrate them with a happiness that has fallen to the lot of few of the commentators on those writers. At the same time, however, that he traversed the lettered shores of Greece and Rome, he was not unmindful of the poets, orators, and historians of his own country. An ardent

love

love of liberty led him to the perusal of those authors who had written on the excellence of the British constitution, of which he was an enthusiastic admirer throughout his life. At the age of eighteen he came to London, with a view of adding to the stock of knowledge he had already acquired, previous to his entrance on the study of some of the learned professions, which was the main object of his literary pursuits. Though a young man, naturally of a gay disposition, yet he lived with becoming decency on the small annuity which his father and a distant relative allowed him, and divided his time in such a manner between reading and rational conversation as to afford the highest satisfaction to the narrow circle of those who were interested in his prosperity. Having remained some time in the metropolis, he went to Paris in order to perfect himself in the French language, and to render himself as far master of the policy and manners of that nation as a given time and limited circumstances would permit. As soon as he had obtained these ends to a certain extent, he returned to England, more than ever enamoured of the British constitution. Having, not merely with the consent, but entire approbation of his friends, fixed on the study of the law as a profession that generally repaid its laborious votaries in the end, he entered his name on the books of the Middle Temple for that purpose, and kept all his terms with the greatest regularity. The black-letter pages of Coke and the year books were not, it is true, in the beginning, suited either to his taste or genius, but the hope of reward sweetened the toil, and smoothed the rugged road that led to honours and emolument. When he was on the eve of being called to the bar, his father died, and as we have already noticed that he had a large family, he could only leave his son his example and a spotless name; and, to do young M'Cormick justice, he never lost sight of the one or the other. He passed much of his time in Oxford, either in conversation with men of congenial pursuits, or in consulting some of the best and rarest authors in that invaluable treasury of intellectual labour, the Bodleian library. It is not exactly known when he commenced author; it is known, however, that the first effusions of his pen appeared in periodical publications, as they were written to relax the severity of his studies and to exercise his mind in composition, he did not put his name to any one of them; they were distinguished, however, by a purity of style and a depth of thought that drew some well-earned compliments from the editors of those works.

All the hopes which he had hitherto indulged of brighter days gradually faded away. The fate of those authors who had experienced the caprice of public taste and the vicissitudes of learning, did not dishearten him: he was in the vigour of his strength, his memory tenacious, his mind stored with reading, and the fruits of conversation. Thus prepared to combat in every scene of adversity, without anticipating any, he set out with philosophical fortitude in a line of life, with an industry that could not be subdued by fatigue or relaxed by disappointment. He compiled and translated many works, which have been well received, and of which others have reaped the profits and the fame. It is almost unnecessary to say, that those which have appeared with his name were written under circumstances that would have damped the first genius, yet still they bear marks of mind that shew what might have been expected from the writer, if composed in ease and retirement. The works that bear his name are, The History of King Charles the Second—Reign of George III. down to 1783—Continuation of Rapin's History of England—Night Reading for leisure Hours—Life of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, the British Cicero, &c. &c.—All his writings are calculated to promote the cause of rational liberty, religion, and virtue. He never courted the patronage of any great man, or dipt his pen in flattery. Under all the pressure of his misfortunes he never was known to repine at the dispensations of providence, to utter one unmanly complaint, or to lose a single moment that might be employed in procuring a livelihood for his family; for he might say with Cardan, "tempus mea possessio, tempus mens ager." In his younger days he projected a history of Ireland, but conscious as he advanced in years of the truth of what Melanchton says, "Est omnino sapientiæ et eloquentiæ opus historiam recte scribere," he deferred it till his judgment should obtain its highest maturity: In the mean time he col-

lected many scarce and valuable materials for the work, which he intended to execute under the patronage of the Earl of Moira, a nobleman who had befriended him on many trying occasons. But alas! he had scarce begun to arrange these documents, when he was attacked by a dropsy; under the daily accumulation of that disease his chearfulness only deserted him when he reflected on the distressed situation in which he would leave an amiable and affectionate wife, in an ill state of health, in years, and without friends. He continued ill for several weeks, and in that interval parted with all his books to supply the calls of the day, so that his widow had not wherewithal to pay the last sad tribute to his memory.

JOHN BERNARD MERIAN.

John Bernard Merian, perpetual secretary of the Academy of Sciences at Berlin, died in that city on Feb. 12, 1807, in the 84th year of his age. He was born at Leichstal, near Basil, and was invited from Holland to Berlin in 1750, on the recommendation of Maupertuis. The best known of his works were, French translations of Claudian, and of Hume's Essays, enriched with commentaries, and the latter sometimes with refutations, often reprinted. The memoirs of the Academy of Berlin contain several pieces of his writing on philosophical subjects and on geometry. One of the most distingnished is a parallel between the philosophy of Leibnitz and of Kant, which was much talked of when it first appeared. This learned man bore an estimable private character, and preserved all the activity and vigour of youth to a very advanced age. A few days before his death he officiated as secretary at a sitting of the Academy to celebrate, according to custom, the memory of the great Frederick.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX.

The annual meeting of buyers and sellers of wool in the neighbourhood of Hounslow, was very well attended; the growers, who from the first institution of this fair, have made a point of avoiding all appearance of combination, and every attempt at fixing a price among themselves, found this year the advantage of the good character with the buyers which such honourable conduct had inspired. The market bell had scarcely ceased to ring when the sale began; last year's prices were in general obtained, an evident proof of the liberality of the buyers. Before evening the whole of the wool was sold, with the exception of a few small parcels, which were, in the opinion of the buyers rated too high, considering their quality, and the day was closed with the utmost harmony among all parties. South down wool sold for 56s.—Wiltshire 44s. and Barnet 40s. per tod of 28lbs. From the great satisfaction expressed by all parties, it is expected that the attendance both of wool-staplers and of growers will increase very much hereafter.

An institution has lately been established at Mile-end for the reception and support of aged men and women, as well as the education and employment of youth of both sexes belonging to the Jewish nation, where the former are enabled to pass the remainder of their days in ease and comfort, and the latter are brought up in habits of religion, decency of manners, and industry. The fund exceeds 22,000*l.* exclusive of a large annual subscription.

On the subject of vaccination we are persuaded that we shall render a real service to the public by giving the following facts, lately stated in public, by Dr. Thornton:

In *London* the mortality from the small-pox, was on an average, annually two thousand persons; in 1800 there died of the small-pox, 2409 persons; in 1801, only 1461; in 1802, 1316; 1803, only 1173; and in 1804, there died only 589 persons, a diminution that was never before known, and only to be ascribed to the progress of vaccination. At Vienna, the average amount of deaths was 835; in 1802 the deaths were only 61; in 1803 27, and in 1804 2.

At

At Lucknow, in the East-Indies, where the amount of deaths was on an average 800 in three years, after the introduction of vaccination they were reduced to seventy-five. From Marseilles, from Geneva, and from Paris, where a statue of Dr. Jenner is now about to be raised, the small pox is nearly extirpated.

About half-past eleven o'clock on Thursday night, a fire commenced from a chimney in the house of Mr. Swan, printer, in Swan-court, the corner of Salisbury-square. No endeavour was made, in the first instance, to extinguish the fire, through an erroneous supposition that the best way of cleaning the chimney, was to let it burn out. It was found, however, when it was too late for remedy, that the flames had communicated to some wood work contiguous to the chimney, and in a house, the interior divisions of which were of lath and plaster, dry deals, or old wainscot, and every room, more or less, filled with paper, plain or printed, when the fire got head, a general conflagration was scarcely avoidable. Not only the printing rooms and warehouses of Mr. Swan, extending backwards towards Water-lane, but the printing and warehouses of Mr. Heney, his tenant; the premises and workshops of Mr. Birch, a paper hanging manufacturer, adjacent; those of Mr. Slee, a portable desk maker; of Mr. Euster, cabinet-maker; the rears of seven or eight houses in Crown-court, leading to Fleet-street; and the upper part of the house of Mr. Cove, coal-merchant, next door to Mr. Swan, took fire. The flames raged from twelve o'clock till five in the morning, notwithstanding the deluges of water poured upon them by near 20 engines, actively plied during the time: and the fire was not got under until most of the premises above stated were reduced to a heap of ruins. Mr. Swan, who, but a year and a half since, narrowly escaped a similar disaster, when the premises of his next door neighbour, Mr. Gillet, were destroyed by fire, had the misfortune to be now uninsured, and is a loser to the amount of above 2000l. A similar calamity involves many industrious poor families who lived at the back of these premises.

Married. At *Mary-le-bone church*, Henry Merrick Hoare, Esq. son of the late Sir Richard Hoare, bart. to Miss Sophia Thrale, daughter of the late Henry Thrale, Esq.—John Sutton, Esq. of Greenwich, to Miss Susan Maull, only daughter of the late John Stephen Maull, Esq. of that place.—At *St. George's*, Hanover-square, Edward Sankey, Esq. eldest son of Colonel Sankey, of the Royal Dublin Militia, to Miss Fanny Cramer Coghill, daughter of the late Sir John Coghill, Bart.—Lieut. Col. Leigh, of the 10th Light Dragoons, to the Hon. Miss Byron.—At *St. Paul's*, Covent-garden, John Rodbard, of Crewkerne, in the county of Somerset, Esq. to Mrs. Making, late of Covent-garden Theatre.—At *Bishopsgate church*, James Penny, Esq. of the Prerogative Office, Doctor's Commons, to Miss Mary Back, eldest daughter of John Back, of Kingsland-road, Esq.—At *Christ-church*, Newgate-street, Robert Poole, Esq. of the Inner Temple, to Miss Elizabeth Copeland, of Amen Corner.—At *Kensington*, Sir James Innes Ker, Bart. to Miss Harriot Charlewood, daughter of the late Benjamin Charlewood, Esq. of Windelsham in Surrey.—At *St. John's*, Hackney, James Heald, Esq. to Miss Anna Newman, third daughter of Charles Newman, Esq.—At *Isleworth*, Capt. Richard Dawson, of the 3rd Reg. of Foot, to Miss E. T. Hall, youngest daughter of Edward Hall, Esq. of Sion-hill.—At *South Mimms*, Charles Dickenson, Esq. of Farley castle, Oxfordshire, to Miss Catherine Allingham, of London.—At *St. Dunstan's*, Stepney, Henry Rooke, Esq. of Witherington, Wilts, to Miss Nettlefold, of Stepney-green.—At *Harrow*, the Rev. Charles Hawkins, Rector of Kelston, Somersetshire, to Miss Augusta Cockburn, youngest daughter of the late Sir James Cockburn, Bart.

Deaths. In Bloomsbury-square, aged 83, James Hutchinson, Esq.—In *New-street*, Spring-gardens, Mrs. Booth, wife of Frederick Booth, Esq.—In *York-place*, aged 70, Sarah Cavendish, Baroness of Water-park, relict of the late Right Hon. Sir Henry Cavendish, Bart. This lady in early life was one of the most celebrated leaders of fashion in Dublin. The second fancy ball given in that city was by her ladyship, who appeared as the *Enchantress Fatima* with her four daughters as attendant sylphs. For some years she devoted herself to painting,

painting, in which she was an adept, as well as in every other elegant fashionable accomplishment. She has lived very retired since the death of Sir Henry, which happened on the 3rd of August, 1804, and on that day three years she followed him.—Suddenly, Mrs. Powell, of the Haymarket theatre. She had performed the evening before in the new comedy of "*Errors Excepted*," with great spirit. Her health had been for some time in an indifferent state, and she had lately undergone a severe operation, but was thought likely to be thoroughly restored. She was sister of Mrs. Ward, formerly a respectable actress at Drury-lane, and of Mrs. Sage, who some years ago ascended in a balloon with the late Mr. Biggen.—Mr. Maude of the Kent-road. He had gone by water to Richmond in company with his sister, a little girl eight years old, and a Mr. Seton, to visit a relation; on their return in the evening, near Putney-bridge, the little girl, who sat behind the other two persons on a seat alone, amusing herself with putting one hand in the water, fell overboard. The brother, a young man 22 years of age, instantly leaped into the water, with his clothes on, to save his sister, and after having dived for her twice, he went down again and was seen no more, nor has the body yet been found. The girl was saved by the waterman, having risen at the stem of the boat. The deceased was a young man of great promise in his profession, as a limner.—In *St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, Thomas Wright, many years one of the city constables; his death was occasioned by a bite on the finger he received some weeks before, from an Irishman he was endeavouring to apprehend, which turned to a mortification.—At *Edmonton*, aged 60, George Tatem, Esq. who, during the younger part of his life, resided in Sicily as his Majesty's consul, and on his return to this country was elected into the direction of the East-India Company, in which he continued upwards of thirty years.—At *Upper Tooting*, aged 68, Joseph Lucas; Esq.—At *Hampton*, aged 66, Mrs. Sarah Chadwick.—At *Ealing*, aged 71, Mrs. Davidson, whose extensive benevolence causes her loss to be justly and sincerely lamented.—At *Sea*, on his passage from Leith to London, Capt. John Pearson, of Shadwell. From his first coming on board in the Thames, his depression of spirits was remarked by every person on board, but no derangement of intellect was suspected till he called Mr. Deas, another passenger aside, and asked him if he had any small debts which he wished to pay, offering him at the same time his watch and some money, which the other declined accepting, on which, Capt. P. observed they would be better in his possession than at the bottom of the sea. He then went below and put his watch and money, together with some other articles into a night-cap, which he laid upon the table in the cabin, requesting a person who happened to be there, to take care of them, and returned upon deck, where in the mean while the gentleman to whom he had offered his money, had been relating the circumstance to the master of the vessel, and suggesting the necessity of his being strictly looked after: he passed them with the swiftness of an arrow and immediately leaped over the quarter into the sea. Mr. Deas followed him so close as to catch hold of his coat while he was in the act of leaping, but was obliged to let it go to prevent his being himself dragged overboard. The vessel was immediately brought to and the boat hoisted out. While this was doing, Capt. Pearson, who was an excellent swimmer, was observed by the passengers to turn himself upon his back, and in that situation he must have cut his throat and given himself a deep stab in the thorax, which was found to be the case when the boat reached him, and before he could be got on board he expired. It was intended to have brought his remains to London, that his friends might have had it in their power to pay him the last attentions, but the voyage being rendered tedious by contrary winds, and the body in consequence of the heat of the weather, becoming offensive, it was, after four days, committed to the deep. The body bled very profusely when in the boat. A dog, unobserved, drank a considerable quantity of the blood, and two days after exhibited evident symptoms of approaching hydrophobia. He was immediately thrown overboard.

John Walrad, Count de Weldern, whose death we noticed in page 80, was born at the Hague, Jan. 19, 1725. He was the last male of a family whose nobility

bility is so antient that its origin is coëval with the formation of society and states in the middle ages of history; and which, for many centuries back, was seated in the duchy of Guelder, or Guelderland, which, in after-ages, made part of the Republic of the United Provinces of the Low Countries. In that country, as in many other mixed sovereignties in that part of Europe, the equestrian order formed, from the most antient times, a part of the government under their limited sovereigns; and none but families that were noble from time immemorial, and whose nobility was not deriveable from Letters of *Nobilitation*, could be admitted, if otherwise possessed of the necessary qualifications. This privilege was preserved when the duchy of Guelder acceded to the confederacy of the United Provinces; and the deceased, when he came of age, became, in consequence, in right of his birth, a member of the equestrian order; and was, soon after, by the States of that province, appointed one of their Deputies to the Assembly of the States-General of the United Provinces; in which he continued until the beginning of the year 1795, when the fabrick of that government, the happiness of that country, its prosperity, and its independence, were swallowed up in the torrent of the French revolution. Count W. was invested with several places of trust and dignity in his own country; and in 1762 was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the States to his Majesty; and, during a residence of 18 years, gave so many proofs of wisdom, prudence, conciliatory manners, and integrity, in the management of the public business between the two countries, that he soon acquired the esteem of the first characters in the kingdom, and the approbation of the Sovereign, who on several occasions has been graciously pleased to express the great regard he entertained for that Minister. The war which, by French intrigue, assisted by the patriot party in Holland, broke out towards the latter end of 1780, put an end to his public mission. Count W. was, moreover, Knight of the Most Noble the Teutonic Order; Bailiwick of Utrecht; Commander of Dieren; and succeeded his Serene Highness the Prince of Anhalt, about a twelvemonth before his decease, as Grand Commander of that Order. Few great men in public life have sustained a more consistent character of loyalty and integrity than Count Weldern; from principle and affection he was attached to the antient constitution of his country, and to the House of Orange; and from them he received, throughout the whole period of their prosperity and adversity, the most undeniable marks of regard and affection, and continued to be their friend to the last. In his private life, as a gentleman, his manners were mild and amiable; his social intercourse full of amenity. He was a warm friend, an indulgent master, and a tender husband. He married in 1759 Anne Whitwell, sister to the late Lord Howard de Walden, who had been maid of honour to her Royal Highness the late Princess of Orange. By her he had two children, a son and a daughter, who both died infants; his Countess died in April, 1796, at the Hague, in her 75th year; when domestic losses (his only brother, a lieutenant-general in the army, and commandant of Maestricht, having, after the fall of that place, died a few weeks before, in his house, where he had taken refuge) added to public misfortunes, prompted him to return to this country, where, both from friends and relations, he met with such unbounded cordiality and friendship as to afford him, in the bitterness of his last years, an abundant source of consolation, which was felt by him with the most sincere and grateful sensibility.

George Saville Carey (p. 192) had, for upwards of forty years, supported himself in the character of a public lecturer, and was, when he died, in his sixty-fourth year. He was the son of the celebrated Harry Carey, a successful comic writer in the early part of the last century, who, though often in great distress, and the author of many convivial and festive songs, never employed his muse in opposition to the interests of morality. It has been long understood that Harry Carey was the author of the tune and words of "*God save the King.*" No other person has ever laid claim to this popular composition. He was the avowed author of the well known song "*Of all the girls who are so smart,*" which Incledon and other singers brought again into vogue; but like many others who have no regular profession, and devote themselves to the muses,

muses, was at last reduced to such distress that he did not want for nature to relieve him from the burthen of life, and when he was found dead had only a halfpenny in his pocket. George Saville Carey, who was a posthumous child, inherited the misfortunes of his father, but he inherited also his talents in a great degree, though they took another direction. He inherited too his moral qualities, for though he wrote a vast number of lyric compositions, they are all calculated to awaken patriotic, generous, and amiable emotions. He was at first a printer, from which business he was taken by a sedentary gentleman, who employed him in reading to him several hours in the day; he then attempted the stage, but did not display such abilities as encouraged him to persevere in theatrical pursuits, but though he endured many vicissitudes of fortune, he always maintained a decent appearance and supported the character of an honest man. He possessed musical taste and talents that would have raised him to eminence if he had cultivated them with diligence, or had not been obliged "to provide for the day that was passing over his head." His death which was very sudden, (he being announced to perform the evening it happened) may be considered as a fortunate event for him, if we may not presume to ascribe it to the kindness of Providence, as the infirmities of age were gathering upon him, and if he had lived much longer he could not of course have subsisted by his talents, but must have sunk into one of the common asylums of misfortune.

BERKSHIRE.

Reading has been fixed upon by Government as the place of residence for Don Pasqual Ruiz Huidobro, late Governor of Monte Video.

Married.—At Compton, the Rev. James W. Best, of Chievely, to Miss Pottinger, only daughter of the Rev. Head Pottinger.

Died.—At *Mongwell-Place*, the Hon. Mrs. Barrington, wife of the Hon. and Right Rev. the Bishop of Durham.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Married.—At *Wendover*, W. Shelton, Esq. of Apsley-House, to Miss Quartermain, of Wendover.

Died.—At *Cholsey*, aged 76, William Minshull, Esq. of Ashton Clinton.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Died.—The Rev. John Harlstone, M. A. Woodwardean, Professor and Junior Fellow of Trinity-College, is elected a Senior Fellow, in the room of the late Rev. Thomas Jones, *vide* p. 193.

Mr. Humphrey Cholmeley, of King's-College, is admitted a Fellow of that Society.

William Verilst, Esq. B.A. of Catharine-Hall, is chosen a Skrine Fellow of that Society, in the room of Mr. Ponsonby.

William Hunt, Esq. Fellow of King's-College, is elected Recorder of Tamworth, in the room of the late Lord Thurlow.

The Rev. Rann Kennedy, M. A. is elected Second Master of the Free School in Birmingham, in the room of the Rev. Jeremiah Smith, who has resigned.

The Rev. Leonard Shelford, B. D. late of Benet-College, is licensed to the perpetual Curacy of Sturston, in Norfolk.

The Rev. Thomas Bartholomew Woodman, M. A. formerly of Trinity-College, has been installed into the prebend of Bugthorpe, in the Cathedral of York, vacated by the death of the Rev. Stephen Moore.

The Rev. J. Vander Meulen, of Caius College, is instituted to the endowed Vicarage of Messing, in Essex.

John Mortlock, Esq. is chosen Mayor of Cambridge, for the ensuing year.

Died.—At *Cambridge*, aged 26, the Rev. George Downing Whittington, L.L.B. of St. John's-College, eldest son of Jacob Whittington, Esq. of Thuberton-Hall, Suffolk.

CHESHIRE.

CHESHIRE.

Married.—The Rev. William Drake, rector of the Lower Mediety of the parish of Malpas, to Miss Eliza Tarleton, youngest daughter of Thomas Tarleton, Esq. of Bolsworth-Castle.

Died.—At *Chester*, James Young, Esq. late of Endon-House, Staffordshire.

CORNWALL.

Married.—At *St. Hilary*, Francis Rawle, Esq. of Marazion, to Miss Amelia Millett, only daughter of Richard Oke Millett, Esq. of Penpoll.

CUMBERLAND.

At the twenty-second anniversary meeting of the Subscribers to the Cockermouth Dispensary, it appeared, that in the course of the preceding year, medical and surgical assistance had been administered to 238 persons, viz. patients recommended and registered 109; midwifery cases 19; cow-pock innoculations 110. Of the registered patients 88 were dismissed cured, 1 returned, 10 dead, and 10 remain upon the books. The total number of sick and maimed who have been admitted to the benefits of this Charity since the 1st of February, 1785, amounts to 7,732.

Died.—At *Cockermouth*, Thomas Benson, Esq.—At *Caldbeck*, aged 88, Mrs. Mary Scott, widow.—At *Mire-Syke* in Loweswater, aged 102, sincerely respected by all who knew him, Mr. John Mirehouse. His family furnishes such instances of longevity as are rarely to be met with. His father and mother were born within a month of each other. The former died at the age of 95; the latter obtained her 100th year. He had three sisters, each of whom died in her 82d year; and a fourth sister, Mrs. Margaret Longmire, widow, of Trushbank, in Loweswater, died in June last, in her 93d year.—The whole of the rising family of Mr. Harding, of Ringan-Hills, near Brampton, consisting of two sons and as many daughters, were lately swept away by an infectious fever introduced by a servant newly come to the house, who had lately recovered of the disorder.

DERBYSHIRE.

Married.—At *Derby*, Thomas Willington, Esq. of Tamworth, to Mrs. Harding, of the same place.

Died.—At *Calwich*, aged 73, John Port, of Ham, Esq. one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the counties of Stafford and Derby.—At *Ford-House*, aged 74, John Holland, Esq. His eminent virtues and good qualities had long endeared him to a numerous circle of friends, by whom he will be most sincerely lamented.

DEVONSHIRE.

LONGEVITY.—There are now living at Chumleigh, three women, whose united ages form a total of 277 years, Two of them bear the same name, but are not related to each other; the elder (Mary Collins), who completed her 93d year last December, succeeded her husband many years ago in the capacity of sexton of the parish, and, until within these few months, she diligently performed the duties of that office. No one was more methodical or expeditious in the digging of a grave; and at this time she regularly tolls the bell, and, during divine service, perambulates the church to keep idle boys under proper discipline.

Married.—At *Broadwoodkelly*, Anthony Bullefd, Esq. of Southmoulton, to Miss Elizabeth Vicary, daughter of Mr. Thomas Vicary, of Brixton-House.—At *Barnstaple*, William Prole, Esq. of Georgeham, to Miss Rebecca Watson, daughter of Mr. Watson, wine-merchant.

Died.—At *Teignmouth*, Charles Dfurord, Esq. Barrister-at-Law.

DORSETSHIRE.

Married.—At *Bridport*, Charles Read, Esq. of Ebley-House, Gloucestershire, to Miss Sarah Downe, daughter of William Downe, Esq. of Downe-Hall,

Hall, Dorsetshire.—At *Halstock*, Samuel Woolcott Hayman, Esq. merchant, of London, to Miss Maria Hayman, third daughter of the Rev. H. Hayman, rector of Lucam.—At *Stonehouse*, Isaac Ferriers, Esq. Captain in the Royal Navy, to Miss Susannah Ward.

Died.—At *Gussage St. Michael*, sincerely lamented by his family and numerous friends, Joseph Randell, Esq.

DURHAM.

Married.—At *Chester-le-Street*, Lieutenant Banson, of the Durham militia, to Miss Hannah Pimshon.—At the Friends Meeting, *Darlington*, Mr. Edward Backhouse, banker, to Miss Robson, daughter of Mr. Edward Robson.

ESSEX.

Married.—At *Woodford*, Sir James Whalley Smythe Gardiner, bart. of Roelie-Court, Hants, to Miss Mosley, sister of Sir Oswald Mosley.—At *Walthamstow*, Arthur Howe Holdsworth, Esq. M. P. for Dartmouth, to Miss Catherine Henrietta Eastabrooke, only daughter of the late John Eastabrooke, Esq. of Stoke, Devonshire.—At *Halstead*, T. R. Andrews, Esq. of Great Portland-street, to Miss Scarlett, daughter of the late James Scarlett, Esq.

Died.—At *Great Warley-Place*, aged 77, Mrs. Bonham, wife of S. Bonham, Esq.—At *Boreham*, aged 81, Mrs. Buttle.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A cause, which had excited much interest in the neighbourhood, and which involved a question of considerable importance to the public, was tried at the late Gloucester assizes, before a special jury; wherein the Rev. Mr. Townsend, of Steanbridge, was plaintiff, and Paul Wathen, Esq. of Lyppiatt-park, Gloucestershire, defendant. The action was brought in consequence of several of the plaintiff's hounds having been caught and disabled in traps, set in one of the defendant's woods; and the principal point in the cause was, whether the defendant had a right to set such traps, although upon his own ground. In the course of the evidence it appeared, that the traps were of an unusual size and shape; that trails had been drawn about the wood and across the public foot-paths to the spot where the traps were concealed and baited; that a deer and several dogs had been caught in one of them, and that a boy, in the defendant's employ, had inadvertently met with the same accident. The Learned Judge (the Chief Baron) before whom the cause was tried, in addressing the Jury, observed, that although traps might be set for vermin, yet there were bounds to that right—such as usual hours for them, and proper dimensions; and that it was not necessary to prove an intention of injuring the particular individual in order to maintain the action; but that a conclusion might be drawn from general circumstances; and he had no conception that traps of an inordinate and alarming size, such as had caught a boy and held a deer, should be set; and when the traps were placed near foot-ways on which a man and his dogs had a right to go, and the game-keeper had directions to bring the dogs which might be caught, there could be no doubt that, under such circumstances, a person was liable to make satisfaction to another for the injury done to him. Verdict for the plaintiff—damages thirty guineas.

Daniel Willey, Esq. is nominated Mayor of Gloucester, for the ensuing year.

Married.—At *Bristol*, Charles Calland, Esq. a Captain in the Royal Glamorgan Militia, to Miss Catharine Forbes, daughter of the late Thomas Forbes, Esq. of Clifton.—At *Westbury-upon-Trym*, Isaac Spooner, Esq. of Elmdon-House, Warwickshire, to Miss Tyler, eldest daughter of J. Tyler, Esq. of Redland.

Died.—At *Cheltenham*, Captain Thomas Holmes Tidy, of the Royal Navy, son of the late Rev. Thomas Holmes, Rector of Redmarshall, in the county of Durham.—At *Gloucester*, aged 70, Mrs. Mary Riellay, relict of Dr. Francis Riellay, of Canterbury.—At *Clifton*, Richard Vickris Pryor, Esq.

HAMPSHIRE,

HAMPSHIRE.

Married.—At *Westmeon*, Sir David Dundas, K. B. to Miss Delancy, of Hall Place.

Died.—At *Hackwood*, aged 60, the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Bolton, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of Hants, and Governor and Vice-Admiral of the Isle of Wight. His Lordship was the second son of John Orde, Esq. of Morpeth, but having married a daughter of Charles, Fifth Duke of Bolton, he took the name and arms of Powlett, and in October, 1797, was created Baron Bolton. He is succeeded in title and estate by his son Thomas, now in his twentieth year. His Lordship was formerly of King's-College, Cambridge, B. A. 1770. M. A. 1773.—At *Winchester*, aged 91, Mrs. Littlehales.—The Rev. Thomas Pyle, many years a prebendary of that Cathedral.—He was formerly of Bene't-College, Cambridge, B. A. 1734, M. A. 1738.—At *Appleshaw*, near Amport, aged 45, Francis Joseph Henry De Behague Chevalier of the Military and Royal Order of St. Louis. In all the vicissitudes of life to which he was exposed by his steady and unshaken loyalty and attachment to his beloved but unfortunate sovereign Louis XVI.—he conducted himself in such a manner as to gain the affections and ensure the esteem and respect of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He had been married about nine years to Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late John Freeman, Esq. of Chute-Lodge, in this county, whose grief for the loss of a husband so deservedly dear to her, is easier to be conceived than described. His funeral was conducted with the greatest decency and solemnity, and he was followed to the grave by some of the most respectable families in the neighbourhood, who thought no attention too great which could be paid to the memory of so good a man.—At *Charlton*, aged 18, Mr. Roberts. The lower part of the house having caught fire, Mr. Roberts flew up stairs to save his mother, who was bed-ridden, but the flames burnt with such rapidity that he was unable to effect his purpose, and both fell victims to the devouring element.—At *Netherwood*, Mrs. Mitchell, wife of Charles William Mitchell, Esq.—At *Appleshaw*, aged 50, Henry Rokemore, Esq.—At *Southampton*, aged 62, Major David St. Clair.—At *Eveliton*, Mrs. Rivett, relict of the late Thomas Rivett, Esq. of Derby.—Through life she was beloved and revered by her family, and her loss will long be deplored by her afflicted children, and lamented by all who knew or witnessed the great and amiable virtues of her heart and mind, and of a life dedicated to charity, religion, and the happiness of all around her.—At *Andover*, aged 50, Henry Festing, Esq. one of the Aldermen of that town, and many years a Captain in the Navy.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

An indictment was tried at Huntingdon assizes, which excited no small degree of pleasantry as well as interest in the county; but the issue, perhaps, is the most singular that ever took place:—It was an indictment against a miller for a nuisance for working his mill so near the common highways as to endanger the lives of his majesty's subjects, by frightening the horses travelling on the road. The prosecutor is a clergyman residing in the neighbourhood of Huntingdon, and is a man of considerable property and consequence in the county. The mill in question is an old erection, and stood some time back far out of the high road upon a common; but by a recent act of parliament the common has been enclosed, and the only road left, unfortunately for the miller, passes close under the fly of his mill. The prosecutor, it appears, was compelled to go this road, and the mill being at work as he passed, his horse took fright and threw him. This happened with almost every horse that passed the mill. Mr. Justice Grose addressed the jury, and observed, that as the mill now stood, it was unquestionably a nuisance, and the miller must be found guilty. It was, however, no fault of his, he could not move his mill; but the commissioners under the Inclosure Bill, who directed the road to be set out, were most to blame, and he regretted they had not been made parties to the indictment. Neither was the prosecutor to

blame in preferring the indictment. He could go no other way since the inclosure; and his life, as well as those of his fellow-subjects travelling by the mill, was endangered, while the mill remained in its present situation. Under such circumstances he felt himself wholly at a loss how to act: the miller ought not to be punished for that he was innocent of, and yet the prosecutor's convenience and the public safety must be consulted. He thought, however, that the best way of deciding would be to direct the prosecutor to pay the miller 40l. and the miller to abate the nuisance, with leave to erect his mill on some covenient spot adjoining. This was accordingly made the judgment of the court.

This decision has caused much surprize in the county, as it is the first instance wherein a prosecuter has been made to pay a fine for obtaining justice.

Married.—At *Great Stukely*, the Rev. Thomas Lloyd, Vicar of Lewsden, Northamptonshire, to Miss Adams.

KENT.

The establishment of a new dock yard and depot for the royal navy, which has long been in contemplation, is now about to be realised. Government, it is said, being at present negotiating with Mr. Wadman for the purchase of his estate at Northfleet, as that spot is found to afford the most favourable facilities for the excavation of docks, and the most commanding grounds for erecting batteries for their protection, while the depth of water in the river at that place will prevent the inconveniences that are experienced from the want of it at Woolwich and Deptford.

Married.—At *Maidstone*, John Henry Cochrane, Esq. late of the Royal Navy, to Miss Rebecca Underhill, of Aylesford.—At *Greenwich*, the Rev. Thomas Jones, Rector of Radnage, to Miss Mary Cook, youngest daughter of the Rev. John Cook, first Chaplain of Greenwich Hospital.

Died.—At *Canterbury*, aged 85, Mr. John Crowter.—At *Chellendon*, aged 84, the Rev. Robert Pettman, 32 years Rector of that parish.—At *Coombank*, Lady Frederick Campbell. This lady, it appears, was addicted to the dangerous practice of reading in bed, and while thus engaged, on Friday night, fell asleep. The curtains of her bed soon after caught fire, and the flames acquired such force, that every effort to rescue her ladyship proved ineffectual. When the body was found it was nearly reduced to ashes. The greater part of the elegant mansion has been destroyed. Her ladyship was the daughter of Amos Meredith, Esq. and sister to Sir William Meredith, Bart. She was married to Earl Ferrers, the unfortunate nobleman who was executed at Tyburn, in 1760, for the wilful murder of Mr. Johnson, his steward; she was however divorced from him by act of parliament, and after his death, in 1769, was married to Lord Frederick Campbell, brother to the Duke of Argyle.—At *Herne*, aged 77, Mrs. Adley, her death was occasioned by the puncture of a pin, which, after producing the greatest agony for several days, terminated in a mortification.—At *Margate*, James Macpharlane, Esq. M. D. formerly professor of physic in the university of Prague. Since his return to this country he has acquired considerable celebrity in the literary world by several publications principally upon medical subjects. He was an accomplished scholar and a polished gentleman, much esteemed by a numerous and respectable connection.—Mrs. Goold, wife of Mr. W. Goold, of Hawley-square. Going into a dark place where there was a well seventy feet deep, she fell into it, and was not discovered until the spark of life was totally extinguished.

LANCASHIRE.

The sixty-fourth annual conference of the society of Methodists commenced at Liverpool on the 27th of July and terminated on the 11th of August. The Rev. John Barber was president of the meeting, at which, during the whole of the sitting, the greatest harmony and unanimity prevailed. It appears from the returns that an increase of 8492 members has been made to the society within these kingdoms in the course of the last year, a number materially exceeding the increase in any former year. Thirty preachers have

this

this year been admitted on trial. Upwards of fifty new chapels are appointed to be built and the funds of the society are in a very flourishing state.

A great improvement has recently been made in the cultivation of the marsh and moss lands within the townships of Overton, Middleton, Heaton, and Heysham, near Lancaster, from the discovery of a bed of sea sand, of an unknown depth, lying about three feet below the surface of the earth. The farmers dig pits in the form of marl pits, and after taking off the soil and a stratum of blue clay, about two feet and a half in thickness, they arrive at the sand, which being spread upon the surface of the earth, mixes with and loosens the soil, before too stiff for agricultural purposes, and converts it into the best arable land in the neighbourhood; being capable of bearing four or five successive crops of grain without manure.

Married.—At *Cartmel*, the Rev. James Strickland, of Crosthwaite, to Miss Walker, of Wellknow.—At *Liverpool*, Thomas Harrison, Esq. of Stubb-house, Durham, to Miss Penelope Whyteil.—John French, Esq. of Lawnsdown, in the Queen's county, Ireland, to Miss Currie, daughter of the late Doctor Currie.—William Meadows, of Meadow-street, aged 75, to Mary Lowe, of Preston-street, aged 57, being his sixth wife. His first wife was Esther Dawson, spinster, with whom he lived two years, and was one year a widower; his second, Peggy Robinson, spinster, with whom he lived 20 years, and had nine children, and was one month a widower; his third, Betty Douglas, with whom he lived two years, and was seven weeks a widower; his fourth, Betty Norcot, with whom he lived 12 years, and was a widower about nine months; his fifth, Mate Plant, with whom he lived eight years, and was six weeks a widower; and now Mary Lowe, as above stated.—At *Manchester*, Mr. George Shaw, cotton merchant, to Miss Fletcher, of Hulme.

Died.—At *Bolton-le-sands*, aged 75, Mrs. Sparling. Distinguished by those amiable virtues which adorn the affectionate wife, the tender parent, the generous friend, and the pious Christian; by her death the poor have lost a liberal benefactress, and the grief of her mourning relations can be better felt than described.—At *Grimshaw-park*, Peter Walsh, labourer. He had accidently fallen into a coal-pit twenty-nine yards and a half deep, in which situation he remained four days before he was discovered. He was alive when taken out but expired in two hours afterwards.—At *Liverpool*, aged 78, Mr. J. Webster, late of Croxteth-hall, who had been thirty years steward to the Earl of Sefton. He was a man of unimpeachable character, punctual in his official duties, and indefatigable in the service of his employer. He lived respected, and died lamented by his relations and friends.—Aged 82, Mr. Joseph Hawden, of the society of Friends.—At *Blackburn*, aged 109, Mrs. Alice Longworth. She retained the use of her faculties till her last illness, and never wore spectacles during her long life. Her youngest daughter is upwards of sixty.—At her father's house, at *Ulverstone*, Mrs. Lumley, wife of the Hon. Brigadier General Lumley.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Some persons engaged in digging on Deeping common, near Stamford, discovered a perfect human skeleton, about 16 inches below the surface, and near it an earthen pot, containing 782 Roman coins, of which the greater part is now in the possession of Mr. Henry Smith, of Deeping, St. James's. A few are the coins of Augustus, Tiberius, and the first Claudius, and consequently are more than 1700 years old; but the irregularity of the coins towards the *exergue* makes it difficult by the legend to determine. Around the head (the impress) of one of the plainest, supposed to be Augustus's, is the following: IMP C VICTORINUS P AUG. In all, the impression of the head is astonishingly clear and correct. The matrix in which it was stamped may, without carrying veneration of antiquity to lengths that obstruct fair determination, be pronounced equal to the most finished and beautiful of the present age.

Married.—At *Bole*, near Gainsburgh, Mr. John Bigland, of Fenningly, near Doncaster, author of Letters on the Study and Use of History, and on the Modern History of Europe, &c. to Mrs. Farrah, widow of the late Mr. George Farrah, of Bole.

Died.

Died.—At *Harrington*, aged 95, Mr. Whitworth.—At *Kenwick-house*, near Louth, in the prime of life, Human Allenby, Esq.

NORFOLK.

The improvements upon the castle and castle-hill at Norwich are rapidly advancing. As the expence will be defrayed by a county rate, we wish to explain the great improvements which have been effected, and at so trifling a sum, that the richest hundred pays only 8l. The rooms in the Shire-hall, appropriated to public business, were so small as not only to be extremely inconvenient, but the pressure of even a few people to obtain admission, was frequently such as to endanger the lives of those who attempted to enter, and the noise and riot without so great, as to become a nuisance and considerable hinderance to the regular advance of business. The Courts of Justice which ought always to be open and capable of containing a large body of the people, were so small as scarcely to hold the necessary attendants. But now the Entrance Court, those of the Clerk of Assize and the Peace, the Nisi Prius and Crown Courts, the Evidence and Jury Rooms, are rendered more capacious, convenient, and handsome. The water too, of which the quantity required was very considerable, and procured from a deep well, is now obtained from the new mills company, by means of iron pipes, and every part of the prison well supplied. A large reservoir is also formed, which in event of fire, holds a sufficient quantity for extinguishing immediately the flames. In considering the exterior plans, it will be necessary to recollect the paling which inclosed the area on the top, the broken down fence that encompassed the hill below, and those trees which planted in the surrounding gardens, had grown to such a height as to hide a great part of the stately building. These obstructions are now removed. Around the area, the earth lowered four feet, will give a view of the castle from its extreme foundation above the surface, to the top of its battlements, and an elegant iron railing, elevated on a stone base of peculiarly neat and excellent workmanship, encircle the edge of the hill. This railing will be decorated with patent lamps, which will give light over the whole of the premises, and have a fine effect when viewed from any part of the town or the adjacent country. The hill will now be closed at night and kept secure. The gardens sloping down the eminence, on which so large a sum has been expended by individuals, will be respected as far as relates to the present division of property; but a plan is drawn for the inspection of the tenants, which when adopted, will greatly increase the value of these little estates, and add much to the beauty of the general prospect. They will be inclosed by a grand iron palisading, cast entirely for the purpose, and which has been universally admired for its elegant and ornamental construction. Six iron gates between columns of freestone will give admittance to the different occupiers of these pleasure grounds, and the lamps elevated above them and the whole inclosure, will distribute light over the lower parts, and those on the railing at the top throwing it down the declivity through the shrubs and higher branches of the trees, will illuminate all the gardens and be conspicuous and attractive. Directly opposite the path which leads from the hill to the angel inn, will be placed one of the gates, opening on a spacious gravel walk inside the pallisading, and which is reserved for the private accommodation of the judges, the sheriff, and the magistrates. Here advancing towards the bridge, after viewing the gardens below on the left, tastefully laid out and gradully rising to the top of the hill, with a fine verdure, ornamented with choice planting, possessing all the beauty of forest scenery, the eye will be directed to the striking appearance of the rail-way at the summit, and ascend to the proud elevation of that massy pile of ancient structure which, with the commanding grandeur, arrests the attention. The vast arch, which is so finely thrown across the valley, and through the span of which are seen the pleasure grounds, the lower part of the town, with the rise of Mousehold Hills towering into the distant horizon, united to the prospect beheld in passing over the bridge and around the area, comprising a bird's eye view of the whole city and its hamlets, with the numerous vessels constantly sailing down the river, winding between the delightful villages

villages of Thorpe, Trowse, and Bracondale, form altogether such an interesting "coup d'œil" as renders this walk one of the most charming spots in any town in Great Britain. At the grand entrance to the castle, over the hill, two massy iron gates will be erected for the admittance of carriages, and two smaller for the accommodation of foot passengers will be placed, one on each side. These will be particularized by the workmanship wrought in them, and corresponding with the Norman architecture of the castle. The masonic support will be of the same venerable character. The battlements, string-courses, and plinths of Portland stone. These gates will open upon the bridge, which will be guarded by iron fencing. Arising over each side of the arch, fixed on stone pedestals, will rest the most ornamental parts—two on the right and two on the left hand; they will be encircled with lamps and agreeing with the architrave of the bridge. When viewed from below, or approaching on either side, they will appear to give light from buttresses of stone forty feet high; and similar designs at the bottom and top of the bridge will render the whole arrangement elegant and correct. The outside of the pallisading will be encompassed by a spacious flag-stone walk, and the whole circumference guarded from all interruption by a light and ornamental iron protection. This castle, with all its appurtenances, has lately been presented to the county by the king, and the inhabitants of Norfolk, by such an immediate and liberal attention to its external ornament, equally as its intertal improvement, have shewn that they were not only sensible of the value of the gift, but that they were also desirous to prove their gratitude to the royal donor.

Married.—At *Gorleston*, George Penrice, Esq. of Yarmouth, to Miss Simpson, only daughter of David Simpson, Esq. of South Town.—At *Yarmouth*, Mr. S. C. Marshe, of Cambridge, to Mrs. Knight, daughter of W. D. Palmer, Esq.

Died.—At *Norwich*, aged 87, Mr. Peter Neale.—At *Hoveton*, aged 73, Henry Negus, Esq.—At *Lynn*, aged 44, Mrs. Bagge, wife of Thomas Bagge, Esq.—At *Stokesby*, aged 76, James Forrest, Esq. formerly of Boston, New England.—At *Wighton*, aged 80, Mrs. Lucy Burcham.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Died.—At *Halse*, near Brackley, Mr. T. Blencowe, formerly an eminent farmer. He was a man of amiable manners and an upright character, and possessed the esteem and good will of all who knew him.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Married.—At *Newcastle*, Mr. Benjamin Sorsbie, merchant, to Miss Bernard, daughter of Mr. Anthony B. of Calcutta.—At *Eden*, Andrew Darling, Esq. of Oatfield, to Miss Stewart, only daughter of Lieutenant James Stewart, of the Royal Navy.—At *Ovingham*, Richard Smith, Esq. of London, to Miss Eleanor Brown, daughter of Richard Brown, of Wylam.

Died.—At *Roddam Castle*, Mrs. Roddam, wife of Robert Roddam, Esq. first admiral of the red. Her extensive benevolence will cause her memory to be deservedly respected to a late period.—At *Shieldfield*, aged 69, Robert Page, Esq. comptroller of the customs at Newcastle for 41 years, and not less distinguished as an elegant scholar, than as an officer of the most inflexible integrity. He has bequeathed a valuable collection of books, among which are superior editions of the Bible in the Italian, Dutch, Spanish, and German languages, to the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle, of which he was a member from its first institution till his death. At *Long Benton*, aged 87, Mr. Samuel Bortis.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Married.—At *Nottingham*, Mr. John Wilson, lace manufacturer, to Miss Maltby, of Overingham.

Died.—At *Luneham*, Thomas Atkin, labourer, aged 80 years. His father died in March, 1779, aged 80: and his being the first death that has happened in the family since that time, it completes a period of 28 years and 5 months. This family is remarkable for longevity, and there is now living at North Muskham,

ham, William Atkin (brother to the above Thomas Atkin) and his wife, whose ages together make 167 years, he being 83, and she 84, and have been married 60 years. Our correspondent writes, that he saw him, his son, grandson, and great grandson, chopping posts and rails for his Grace the Duke of Newcastle. We believe but few dukes, or any other men, can boast of having their work done by four generations altogether.

OXFORDSHIRE.

The number of degrees during the last year was D. D. 10, D. Med. , D. C. L. 1, Honorary D. C. L. 2, B. D. 13, B. Med. 2, M. A. 73, Hon. M. A. 6, B. C. L. 6, B Mus. 1, B. A. 129. The Reverend Thomas Rawbone, and Mr. Samuel Sellwood, M. A. and Messrs. Thomas Nixson Blagdon and Henry Lloyd Loring, B. A. Demies of Magdalen College are admitted Fellows of that society.

Messrs. Lightfoot and Dyson, of Merton College, and Mr. Ellison, of University College, are elected Fellows of Merton College.

The Reverend Frederic Gardener, of Lincoln College, is elected a Fellow of that Society.

Died.—At *Charlbury*, aged 77, Mrs. Panton.—At *Brockhampton*, aged 64, Mr. Butler.—At *Blandford Park*, Nathaniel Cross, shepherd to Mr. Smith, of Walcott. In a boxing match with William Bolton, the son of a respectable farmer, he received in the third round a blow so violent as to occasion his immediate death.

SHROPSHIRE.

Married.—At *Beckbury*, Jeremiah Jenkins, Esq. of Prittlewell, to Miss Eliza Yonge, second daughter of Wm. John Yonge, of Caynton-house.—At *Wrockwardine*, William Lacon Childe, Esq. to Miss Harriet Cludde, youngest daughter of William Cludde, Esq. of Orleton.—At *Dorrington*, Capt. Whitfield, of the 9th regiment, to Miss Jane Hale, daughter of J. Hale, Esq. of Netley.—At *Ellesmere*, Mr. John Hughes, an old bachelor of 85 years of age, who has been bellman of the same place upwards of 60 years, to Mrs. Anna Dulson, of the same place, widow, aged 82. The groom's man was 78; the bride's maid 75; making a total of 320 years. The novelty of the scene brought together a vast concourse of people; the church-yard was crowded while the ceremony was performed, and the happy couple was met at the church door by three violin players, playing "Come, haste to the Wedding."—The whole concluded with a ball at night, which was opened by the bride and bride's maid.

Died.—At *Oswestry*, Mrs. Gibbons, wife of John Gibbons, Esq.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

On the 5th of August, was holden in the exhibition yard of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, the first public mart for the sale of improved British Clothing Wool. A very considerable quantity of this wool was sold at high prices; and though a part was left unsold under the care of the secretary, there is not a doubt that this mart will increase in its importance. After the hours of public business, many gentlemen from the counties of Norfolk, Surrey, Wilts, and Gloucester, as well as Somerset, dined together, Sir John Cox Hippisley, Bart. M. P. in the chair. Much interesting discussion took place, warmly promoted by the chairman, and "a committee of Staple Regulations" was appointed to manage the future proceedings.—The healths of the farming nobility, Mr. Coke, Dr. Parry, and other public spirited gentlemen were drank with great respect; and this meeting which was marked by a spirit of useful emulation, ended in the most auspicious harmony.—The chairman received the particular thanks of the meeting.—Dr. Parry demanded 3s. 6d. per lb. for his Merino fleeces, which (if they were not washed before shearing, which is supposed to have been the case) may be considered as equal to 6s. per lb. if the same had been scoured and sorted, as the Spanish wool is delivered in this country; and that price cannot be less than from 18s. to 20s. a head,

a head on each sheep. For the mixture of Ryeland and Merino; 2s. 6d. per lb. was refused, and 2s. 10d. was demanded.

Married.—At *Bath*, Newman Knowlys, Esq. common sargeant of the city of London, to Mrs. Slope, of King's-street.—Thomas Croxall Cam, Esq. to Miss Litchfield, daughter of Richard Litchfield, Esq. of Great Farrington, Devonshire.—John Mervin Nooth, Esq. to Mrs. Wilford.—At *Walcot*, George Samuel Kett, Esq. of Seething-hall, to Miss Millford, only daughter of John Millford, of Bath.

Died.—At *Brislington*, Mrs. Bush, wife of Robert Bush, Esq.—At *Woodbury*, J. T. Ceily Trevillion, Esq. of Middleney.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

An awful and truly melancholy accident occurred lately near Hanley, in the Potteries. Three of the sons of Mr. Wilson, a respectable manufacturer in that place, for their amusement, and as a preparation for celebrating the Wakes the succeeding week, had placed three pieces of small cannon in the garden of the elder brother, which they charged with powder and wadding, and disposed at a short distance from each other; when one of the brothers was in the act of firing the first piece, the eldest with his infant child in his arms was in the front of the third, and, dreadful to relate, the priming communicated to the others, by which unfortunate event the father and child were literally blown to pieces, and in a moment rendered spectacles too shocking for humanity to contemplate, and that in the presence of their nearest and dearest ties—a wife, mother, and brothers. Their mangled remains, enclosed in the same coffin, were deposited in the family vault, in the presence of numerous spectators, and this distressing event cast such a gloom on the surrounding neighbourhood, as all the hilarity attendant on the season was not able to dispel.

SUFFOLK.

Married. At *Melford*, Frederick Chetham Mortlock, Esq. son of John Mortlock, Esq. banker of Cambridge, to Miss Sarah French, second daughter of Charles French, Esq. of Shilford.

Died. At *Barking Hall*, aged 20, the Hon. Sophia Ashburnham, second daughter of Viscount St. Asaph.—At *Brampton*, aged 50, Mr. John Hodgson, surgeon, much and deservedly regretted by a numerous acquaintance.—At *Bungay*, aged 78, Matthias Abell, Esq.—At *Gislingham*, aged 69, Richard Reeve, Esq.—At *Ipswich*, aged 100, Mrs. Simmons.

SURREY.

The annual sale of Merino sheep, selected from his Majesty's flock, took place on Tuesday, 11th August, at Kew. Mr. Smith, the auctioneer, opened the business by a short but appropriate speech to the company, on his Majesty's gracious intentions in taking this mode of disseminating this inestimable breed of sheep, and stated, that the Rams now before them had, on the average, sheared 10lbs. each of washed wool, and the Ewes four pounds and a half on the average; the wool this year having been washed on the sheep's backs before shearing, according to the English method. He noticed the evidence which has been advanced, of these sheep being hardy enough to endure the climate of Shetland, and any of the Northern British Isles. Fourteen four-toothed, and two six-toothed Rams, seventeen full-mouthed, four six-toothed, and five aged Ewes, all of the true Merino breed, without admixture or cross, were disposed of. The highest price for a four-toothed Ram, was 28 guineas; the lowest 13½ guineas; one of the six-toothed Rams, sold for 41 guineas, the other for 33: the highest price for the Ewes was 20 guineas, the lowest 10 guineas. The whole sold for 920l. 6s. 6d.

It was admitted that these sheep were much improved in carcase, since the commencement of these sales five years ago, and at least equal, if not superior in the fineness of their wool.

Married. At *Addiscomb Place*, the Hon. James Walter Grimstone, only son of

of Lord Grimstone, to the Right Hon. Lady Charlotte Jenkinson, only daughter of the Earl of Liverpool.—At *Windlesham*, the Rev. Robert Cox, rector of Broughton, near Leicester, to Miss Leycester, of Hall Grove, Bagshot.

Died. At *Egham*, Robert Pickwood, Esq. deputy of the Ward of Vintry, and treasurer of the Society of Patrons of the anniversary of the Charity Schools in London, and the suburbs. To this gentleman the public are indebted for the idea of bringing the Charity Children to St. Paul's Cathedral, and placing them in the striking point of view in which they are annually exhibited under the dome of that stupendous edifice.—At *Stockwell Green*, Joseph Walker, Esq. of Doctors-Commons.—At *Henley Park*, Henry Halsey, Esq.—At *Addlestone*, Chertsey, aged 68, James Carter, Esq. formerly of Bishopsgate-street.

SUSSEX.

Lewes Wool Fair was uncommonly well attended; the buyers expected a fall in the price from last year, and the sellers, conceiving they had reduced their prices too much last year, expected some rise. After dinner, *Lord Sheffield*, who presided, rose and said, that he had not neglected to make inquiry into the subject of the probable demand for wool, and on the export trade of woollens.

In 1804 it amounted in value to - - -	L.5,700,000
1805 - - - - - - -	6,000,000
1806 - - - - - - -	6,200,000

The trade with the Continent had certainly experienced some depression; yet from the increased demand from South America last year, the value of Woollens exported amounted, as he had stated, to 6,200,000l.

The great increase of the Woollen manufacture appears from the import of Wool, during the last twenty years. In 1786 it amounted to 1,565,996 lbs. and in 1805, to 8,541,428 lbs. a six-fold increase; notwithstanding the great improvement which has taken place in England, in respect to the fine wool. But last year there was a decline in the importation of 2,200,000 lbs. above a fourth, notwithstanding the extraordinary circumstance that 550,000 lbs. were imported from Ireland; and it is possible that the increased difficulties arising from the war, may reduce the import considerably. These circumstances, however, do not tend to prove that the price of fine Wool should be lower than it was the last or any year; but on the contrary, that it should be higher. He thought it possible that there might be some reduction in the price of long wool in consequence of any temporary check or suspension of export; but the great increase of the manufacture of fine wool, and the decrease of one-fourth in the importation of Spanish wool, surely did not furnish any ground for lowering the fine wools of this country. As a friend to the British Empire, he rejoiced in the diminution of the import of wool. It is proved that we can raise it of a very fine quality in this country; and a much larger quantity might be raised than is imported, if properly encouraged; there are several millions of acres of waste mountain lands, which would form excellent pasture for sheep, now of little use; and such being the case, we should endeavour to save the large sum paid to Foreigners for that article; for the import in 1805, computing the wool imported at little more than 4s. per lb. amounts to two millions sterling.

A Committee was moved, composed of some of the principal growers of wool, who retired, and on their return, presented a paper, in which they agreed to sell their wool at the prices placed opposite their respective names, which averaged nearly 2s. 2d. per lb. on 23 parcels; namely, from 1s. 11½d. to 2s. 3d. per lb. which last sum is little more than the best prices of the last and preceding years. The Woolstaplers then retired, and declared on their return that they would not give those prices, and the meeting broke up without doing any business.

The annual shew of prize-cattle, near Lewes, was not so numerously attended as usual. Judges were appointed to determine the merits of the several heads

heads of cattle, and various gentlemen were awarded premiums. The company at dinner, at the Star-Inn, filled three rooms, and many could not find places. The tables were well supplied with venison, owing to the liberality of the Earl of Egremont and Sir C. M. Burrell, Bart. the former having presented a brace of bucks for that purpose, and the latter, one. After dinner Lord Sheffield took the chair, in the absence of the Earl of Egremont, (who was detained in London, by business in Parliament,) declared the prizes, and presented several pieces of plate, &c. but it was remarked that many who have extraordinary good stock, neglected to send them to the shew; and that although there were some very fine cattle, especially sheep, yet there were also many of so inferior a kind, as not to be worthy of admission to the shew; they disgraced the breed of the county of Sussex, which surely is as good as any in the United Kingdom, and must give a very unfavourable impression to many respectable strangers who attended from distant counties.

Married. At *Brighton*, Edmond Darby, of Ashton House, in the county of Hertford, Esq. to Miss Wells, daughter of the late James Wells, Esq. of Blackheath.

Died. At *Chichester*, aged 77, Mrs. Martha Dear. Her loss is greatly lamented, as she possessed the most amiable virtues, and was distinguished for her unbounded benevolence, which was unceasingly exerted in affording relief to the suffering poor. Among the many donations that do honour to her memory, the re-building the church of St. Martin's ought not to pass unnoticed. This church was so miserably dilapidated that the performing of the church service was suspended. But from its ruins, there is raised a handsome fabric, and the parishioners are accommodated in a beautiful church, that will be a lasting monument to her memory.—At *Arundell*, William Seymour, Esq many years steward to his Grace the Duke of Norfolk.—At *Brighton*, aged 53, Richard Johnson, Esq.—At *Worthing*, aged 87, Mr. R. Bacon.—At *Robert's Bridge*, aged 87, Mrs. Mary Hassenden, beloved and regretted by all who knew her.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Married. At *Mancetter*, Lieutenant Moor, of the 29th foot, to Miss Louisa Eborall, second daughter of William Eborall, Esq. of Atherstone.

Died. At *Stratford-upon-Avon*, Miss Mary Webb, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Webb, Esq. of Sherbourn.—At *Kenilworth*, aged 55, Mr. Cartwright Draper.—Aged 83, Mrs. Ruth Richards.—At *Birmingham*, aged 82, Mr. Timmins, relict of the late Mr. William Timmins.—Aged 68, Mr. Richard Briscoe, late of Wake-green.

WESTMORELAND.

Married. At *Kirby Stephen*, Capt. Wilson, of the 2d regiment, to Miss Jane Munkhouse, second daughter of Thomas Munkhouse, Esq. of Wenton.—At *Gretna Green*, Mr. James Fawcett, of Kendal, to Miss Hartley, of the same place, aged 15, daughter of Mr. John Hartley, of the Society of Friends.

Died. At *Kirby House*, Mrs. Sewell, relict of the late Rev. Mr. Sewell.—At *Ravenstonedale*, aged 84, John Tarleton, a veteran who had fought at Dettingen in 1743, where he received a wound.

WILTSHIRE.

Died. At *Little Sutton*, aged 66, Mrs. Mary Long, whose loss will be severely felt by the neighbouring poor.—At *Whaddon*, aged 86, Mr. William Feltham, many years master of the King's Head Inn, in Ringwood.—At *Mere*, aged 88, Mr. James Butt, formerly an eminent surgeon.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

The Annual Report of the Worcester General Infirmary, states that 1030 patients had been admitted from Midsummer 1806, to Midsummer 1807, besides upwards of 500 poor persons who have been inoculated with the Cowpock, and that all the old debts of the Infirmary, which in 1802, amounted to

upwards of 800l. have been discharged, and 1700l. three per cents. added to the funded stock since that period.

Died. At *Dudley*, Edward Dixon, Esq. banker, late High Sheriff of the county. In the death of this gentleman, the public have to regret the loss of an honest independent man. In domestic life he was mild and affectionate, and his family will long deplore his tenderness, advice, and example.—At *Hill Court*, on Thursday 22d July, Mrs. Holbroke, wife of Thomas Holbroke, Esq. who himself died on the Sunday following.—At *Worcester*, Mr. Davis, parish-clerk of Hartlebury. He had just alighted from the London coach, at the Bull Inn, when he was seized with a fainting fit, and instantly expired.

YORKSHIRE.

The question between the Archbishop of York and the corporation of that city, as to the right of the former to the possession of the gates of the city during the Lammas fair, came on at the assizes at Durham before the Hon. Baron Wood and a special jury of that county, when a verdict was found for his Grace. This decision, it is feared, will in future prevent any material improvement in the city.

As some workmen were digging for the foundation of a house near the Mount, without Micklegate Bar, they broke into a vault about four feet from the surface, built of stone, and arched over with Roman bricks, with a small door of entrance at the north end; the length of the vault was eight feet, the height six feet, and the breadth five feet; in this was discovered a coffin of coarse ragstone grit, covered with a flag of blue stone, about seven feet long, three feet two inches wide, four inches thick, and one foot nine inches deep, containing an human skeleton entire, with the teeth complete, supposed to be the remains of a Roman lady, and to have been deposited there from 1400 to 1700 years. Near the skull lay a small glass phial or lachrymatory, with fragments of another phial, the inside of which appeared to have been silvered. At a little distance from the vault was also found an urn, of a red colour, in which was deposited the ashes and bones, partly burnt, of a human body.—It is supposed that the urn must have lain there near 2000 years, as the Romans discontinued the practice of burning their dead prior to that period.

The following most extraordinary phenomenon was lately observed by several people of credit, at the house of Mr. Rhodes, in Thornes-lane, near Wakefield. A hen had been sitting on duck's eggs, several of which had produced ducklings. On examining one egg, a small hole was found in one end of the shell, through which a toad was discovered, not alive, which filled the whole shell, and seemed, upon breaking it, to be absolutely straitened for want of room. Except the small hole, such as is usually found in an egg when the animal within is mature for hatching, the shell was perfectly whole, so as utterly to preclude the supposition of the toad's having crept in through the hole. We have ourselves seen the toad, and with a small part of the shell adhering to it. This singular circumstance reminds us of an account which we inserted in our paper about a year ago from the Northampton Mercury, of several persons who were poisoned at a village near Grantham, from eating eggs laid by ducks, which had previously been observed to have had connection with some toads in a pond.—*Wakefield Star.*

Married. At *York*, the Rev. W. J. Martin, of Keston, in Kent, to Miss Ann Pickard, youngest daughter of the late Leonard Pickard, Esq.—At *Middleton*, near Pickering, Wm. Marshall, Esq. to Miss Hodgson, of Wrelton.—At *Whitby*, Lieut. Dale, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Duck, second daughter of the Rev. Mr. Duck, of Danby.

Died. At *Beverley*, aged 80, the Rev. James Greaves, who had held the perpetual curacy of the collegiate church of St. John's twenty-eight years; he was also vicar of Thorp Basset, near Malton, and of Coxhill, in Holderness.—At *Hull*, Mr. Wm. Chamberlain, portrait-painter; an artist of considerable talents in his profession; he was formerly a student at the Royal Academy, and afterwards a pupil of the late John Opie, Esq. R. A.—Aged 64, Mr. Robert Leake, late commodore of the Humber pilots.—Capt. James Findlay, jun. The deceased

ceased and Capt. John Mason, jun. had gone down the Humber to fish, having along with them three apprentices. Having made one haul with their net, and caught several fish, they were induced to try another, when all of them immediately left the boat, and got upon the Trinity Sand, for the purpose of trailing the net along the edge of the water. They had only been a short time upon the sand, before the flood tide commenced with such rapidity as to render their situation extremely dangerous; which Captain Mason pointed out to them, and requested they would accompany him to the boat, but they refused, and desired him to run and fetch her as near them as possible, whilst they secured the net and fish. Before he could reach the boat, the current took him off his feet, but he caught hold of the gunwale, and got into her; he then immediately directed his attention to his companions, whom he saw stripping off their clothes to endeavour to save themselves by swimming; when finding he could not, by any exertion he was able to make, get the boat near them, he threw the oars into the water, which two of the boys, who could swim, caught hold of, and by that means reached the boat. Their united efforts were then directed to the preservation of Captain Findlay and the other boy, but without effect; by the rapidity of the tide they were swept off the sand.—At *Leeds*, aged 83, Mr. Gabriel Shepherd, whose unaffected piety and universal benevolence will make him long and justly regretted.—At *Middlethorp*, aged 69, Capt. John Mitchell, of the Madras Artillery.—At *Richmond*, Miss Anne Maria Leighton, only surviving daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Leighton.—At *Roughbrough*, aged 80, Mr. Wm. Sheffield, sen. farmer. A singular circumstance happened to him forty-nine years ago: when in company with five or six others, bathing at Bridlington quay, a wanton shot was fired from a vessel leaving the harbour, as he was sitting upon the cliff top, and in the act of drawing on his stockings, which struck him close to his fingers ends, and shot away his foot and ancle, at the same time taking off a curl of the wig of a person of the name of Warcup, who was in company with him.—At *Townhead*, in Craven, aged 83, James Wigglesworth, Esq. Of him it may be truly said, that he died full of years and of honour; no man preserved with more propriety that respectability of station which his fortune commanded. His numerous family have lost in him an affectionate and tender parent, and the poor a friend ever ready to assist and relieve their distress.

WALES.

The benevolent disposition which first created the establishment at Swansea for the education of the children of the poor, has been extended to the erection of a commodious school-room for the accommodation of the boys. The measure was resolved on at the last general meeting of the subscribers, and a separate subscription for the purpose immediately commenced, which was liberally patronized by the gentlemen present, and there can be no doubt of the necessary sum being speedily raised.

Married. At *Glasbury*, John Eckly, Esq. of Credenhill park, Herefordshire, to Miss Williams, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Williams, Esq. of Velinnewydd, Breconshire. At *Llanfwrog*, the Rev. James Jones, to Miss Hughes, daughter of the late James Hughes, Esq. of Ruthin.

Died. At *Abergavenny*, aged 62, Mrs. Mary Jenkins.—At *Bronwidd*, suddenly, Thomas Lloyd, Esq. Lieut. Colonel Commandant of the Fishguard Volunteer Infantry; a man highly honoured, loved, and respected by all ranks of people. As a christian, a husband, a brother, a father, and a friend, he has perhaps not left his equal; his hand was open as day to melting charity, the poor and the unhappy having ever claims upon his benevolence, which though unbounded was never ostentatious. His loss will be severely felt and long deplored by a very extensive circle of acquaintance. Few men were more fit to be snatched off in a moment than himself, as he was, both by precept and example, a pious, sincere, and humble christian, and therefore has only exchanged an earthly for a heavenly inheritance.—At *Cowbridge*, John Thomas, Esq.

SCOTLAND.

Glasgow is, we believe, the first city in the kingdom which has completed a monument to the memory of Lord Nelson. The building was finished on Friday,

Friday, 7th August; when it was decorated with four flags, and three cheers were given by the workmen on the top, and a great number of spectators assembled on the green. The vessels at the Broomielaw also had their flags hoisted all day on the occasion. The monument, which is an Obelisk 145 feet in height, is erected on the High-Green, and is to be the termination of Clyde-street. The committee have received a number of appropriate inscriptions, but have not yet determined which shall be preferred.

On the 1st of August, the village of Galston was visited by an inundation, which, from its magnitude and rapidity, must leave a lasting impression on the minds of those who witnessed its destructive effects. It was supposed to have been occasioned by a water spout which fell in the upper part of the parish, near the seat of N. Brown, Esq. of Waterhaughs. The property of this gentleman suffered much damage, part of the garden wall being completely destroyed, and many trees and hedges entirely rooted out. A bridge also in the neighbourhood was thrown down by the violence of the current.—The water made its way into several of the coal-pits near Cessnock; fortunately, however, all the workmen being apprized of their danger, escaped unhurt. When the flood reached Galston, the scene became truly alarming; many families were obliged to fly from their houses, some of them at the hazard of their lives. A few individuals have suffered severely in their property, and many in a slighter degree have felt the destructive effects of this overwhelming element.

Married.—At *Edinburgh*, George Dunbar, Esq. professor of Greek in that University, to Miss B. A. Hamilton, daughter of the late Robert Hamilton, Esq. of Canton, in China.—Andrew Darling, Esq. of Oatfield, to Miss Stewart, only daughter of Lieutenant James Stewart, R. N.—At *Paisley*, John White, Esq. of Glasgow, to Miss Janet Orr, daughter of the late Robert Orr, Esq. at East-Craigs.—Patrick Small, Esq. of Kindrogen, to Miss Jane Stewart, daughter of the late John Stewart, Esq.—At *Oban*, John Thomson, Esq. of Kelton, Dumfriesshire, to Miss Isabella Campbell, daughter of John Campbell, Esq.

Deaths.—At *Edinburgh*, aged 37, the Rev. James Struthers, Minister of the Relief Congregation in College-street.—Aged 83, Mr. James Watson, painter.—Lately, aged 70, General John Fletcher Campbell, of Salton. He was the youngest son of Andrew Fletcher, Esq. of Milton; Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland, who, under the auspices of Archibald Duke of Argyle, managed the internal government of that country for many years. Gifted with distinguished talents, General Campbell was well qualified to imitate the race of distinguished men from whom he descended, and to discharge every duty with credit to himself and advantage to the community. He had studied the book of life with attention, and his remarks upon it displayed the capacity of his mind and the vigour of his understanding: and if some traits of eccentricity were discoverable in his appearance and behaviour, they rather served as foils to set off his benevolence and numerous good qualities, than to impair his usefulness or detract from his merits. The features of his mind were strongly marked, and conveyed, on the slightest glance, full proofs of activity and discernment, while his whole conduct exhibited an animated desire to benefit society, and to improve the interest of those with whom he was connected. He had formerly resided on his estate of Boquhan, in Stirlingshire; and when on the death of his elder brother, General Henry Fletcher, in 1803, he succeeded to the patrimonial estate of Salton, in East Lothian; he found many branches of its economy in a disordered and confused state, owing in a great measure to the sickly condition of his brother for some years previous to his decease.—To remedy these and improve the patrimony descending to him from his ancestors was his earliest care, and in a short time he accomplished many desireable, and efficient improvements.—The alterations upon the mansion-house, display much taste and judgment in architecture, as do also a new church with a lofty spire, and a school and house for the school-master, built at his sole expence.—He had in contemplation to make many alterations in the village of Salton, thereby to beautify the property, and to add to the comfort of the inhabitants, and contributed largely towards erecting the bridge across

across the Tyne, by which the communication with the market town is now opened to a great district of country.—He also instituted a club of farmers at Salton, and regularly presided at their quarterly meetings.—That this society might not fall to pieces at the death of its institutor, as has too often happened in similar cases, he has bequeathed to it five hundred pounds, and the like sum to the Society of farmers at Kippen, in Stirlingshire, another institution which he countenanced and supported.—The trustees appointed for carrying his will into effect, are directed to lay out the money in the purchase of lands, and the income arising therefrom is to be paid to the respective societies, to be expended by them in premiums for promoting and encouraging agriculture.—He has left two sons both under age.—The eldest of whom succeeds him at Salton, and the other at Boquhan.—At *Glasgow*, John Maxwell, of Dargavel.—Neil M'Brayne, Esq. of Summerlee.—Captain Archibald Patoun.—At *Moffatt*, George M'Intosh, Esq. merchant, of Glasgow.—At *Inchnadaff*, *Assynt*, aged 92, Mr. Kenneth M'Kenzie; he survived his wife only three months, who died at the age of 86: they had lived together in uninterrupted health and happiness for the long period of 67 years. His remains were followed to the grave by six children, upwards of thirty-six grand children and ten great grand children. Several of the latter are sixteen years of age.—At *Anderston*, aged 64, William Gillespie, Esq. of Bishopton.—Indebted for his rise in life to his own exertions, he continued to be a zealous promoter of whatever promised to be useful to the manufactures of his country or to society. Animated by an active spirit of benevolence towards all, which ever prompted him to deeds of liberality: he was also distinguished by a particular warmth of affection for his family and friends. The habits of piety which had been formed in early life, were diligently cultivated in his declining years, and enabled him to sustain his last sufferings with a spirit, and in a manner which, while they shewed the power and the importance of religion in an impressive view, must strongly recommend his example, and will for ever endear his memory to his surviving relations.—At *Bathgate*, aged 85, Mr. James Wardrobe.—At *Torbreak*, Robert Campbell, Esq. Sheriff Clerk of Invernesshire.—At *Ayr*, aged 87, Mrs. Hume, senr.—At *Brachead*, Mrs. Mary Campbell, relict of James Maxwell, Esq. of Williamwood.—At *Wester Dairy*, Walter Cleland, Esq.—At *Aberdour-House*, aged 87, Patrick Gordon, Esq.—At *Aberdeen*, Mr. Alexander Shaw, bookseller and dealer in natural history, formerly of the Strand, London. Except some small legacies and an annuity to a near relation, he has left the bulk of his fortune towards establishing and maintaining an asylum for five boys and as many girls, deserted or destitute orphans, to be received after its first establishment not under two nor above four years of age.—At *Peebles*, Col. James Murray, of Cringeltie.—At *El-Hamet*, Lieutenant-Colonel Macleod, of the 78th regiment. This gentleman was universally beloved and esteemed in the army as an officer of great spirit and talents. From his earliest youth he had distinguished himself in active service in the low countries.—At the Cape of Good Hope, in 1796, where he obtained the appointment of Fort-Major, though then scarce of age: in the East Indies, where he served for several years, and was distinguished as a profound oriental scholar as well as an excellent officer, and last year at the battle of Maida, where he was wounded at the head of his regiment.

IRELAND.

The spirit of mining speculation is beginning to shew itself strongly in Ireland. Several cargoes of the richest copper ore that has ever been seen in Swansea, have been sold there this summer from Ross island mine, on the lake of Killarney. A number of Cornish miners have been recently engaged for the purpose of working a new copper mine on the estate of the Earl of Derby, near the town of Tipperary, which from the very superior quality of the ore, promises considerable benefit to the country and to the adventurer. The advantages of undertakings of this nature in a country where the modes of employing the lower classes of the community are so few, will be readily imagined. The Ross island and Enniscorthy mines, have given almost constant employment to 1000 persons for three years past.

At

At the assizes for the City of Waterford, a Roman Catholic interdicted Clergyman was tried on a charge of having married a couple under circumstances contrary to law. He was found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of 500l.

Married.—At *Dublin*, Henry Chester, Esq. to Miss Dillon, daughter of Gerald Dillon, of Marianstown, in Meath.—William Henry Newenham, Esq. eldest son of William Worth Newenham, Esq. of Coolmore, Cork, to Miss Tighe, only daughter of Robert Stearne Tighe, Esq. of Mitchelston, West Meath.—The Hon. Douglas Gordon Haliburton, son of the late Earl of Aboyne, to Louisa, only child of Sir Edward Leslie, bart. of Tarbert, Kerry.—At *Cork*, Edmond Knapp, Esq. of Lehena, to Miss Ann Power, third daughter of the late Mr. James Power.—Jonas Morris, Esq. of Dunkettle, to Miss Crawford, daughter of William Crawford, Esq.—At *Ballincrina*, Francis Phair, Esq. of Cork, to Miss Mary Eliza Casey, only daughter of James Casey, Esq. of Glintown.

Died.—At *Dublin*, John Hale, Esq. whose pleasantry of manners, convivial disposition and goodness of heart, endeared him to a numerous acquaintance.—Mrs. Ogle, wife of the Right Hon. George Ogle, of Belleview, Wexford.—The Right Hon. Lady Phaire, relict of Robert Phaire, Esq. of Daphine, Wexford.—At the *Episcopal-Castle of Raphoe*, James Hawkins, D.D. Lord Bishop of that Diocese. His Lordship was born in 1724, promoted to the See of Dromore in 1775, and consecrated Bishop of Raphoe in 1780. From his first entrance into life, holding residence to be a principal duty, he constantly remained wherever his promotion placed him. Though he had nearly attained his eighty-fourth year, his intellects remained unimpaired to his last moments, and he died as he had lived, in peace.—At *Limerick*, aged 85, Silvester O'Halloran, Esq. Surgeon, M.R.I.A. and of most of the Literary Societies in the United Kingdom. He studied physic in Paris and London, and must have made a rapid progress in the attainment of knowledge, for the first of his works was published before he attained the age of twenty-one. He was the author of several medical and political treaties, and of a General History of Ireland, to the close of the 12th century, of which a second edition, greatly improved, was published in 1803. He was highly learned in the Irish language and antient Laws, and was ever remarkable for his loyalty and attachment to the House of Brunswick; a steady supporter of its constitution, and a warm advocate for the honour of his native country.

FOREIGN OCCURRENCES.

The following is a comparative list of the population of Denmark, according to the official returns, from Advent 1806, to the same period in the present year; exclusive of Greenland, Iceland, and the Danish Islands:—In the kingdom of Denmark were born 29,949, died 22,588; in Norway, born 26,777, died 18,482; in the Grand Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, born 16,421, died 12,754; in Altona, born 793, died 823; in Pinneberg, born 901, died 694; in the county of Ranzau, born 418, died 354. Total number of births 75,259, number of deaths 55,695; being an increase of population in one year, of 19,564.

During the last year there were brought out at the Theatre-Royal at Copenhagen, nine translated pieces, and only one original Danish comedy, which was by Professor Sanders. The number of performances in the season amounted to 158.

Married.—On the 6th of April, her Royal Highness the Princess Maria Cristina, daughter of his Majesty Ferdinand the Fourth, King of the Two Sicilies, to his Royal Highness Prince Charles Felix of Savoy, Duke of Genevois, brother to his Majesty the King of Sardinia.—On the 19th May, at *New Providence*, Major Darling, of the 99th regiment, to Miss Cameron, only daughter of his Excellency the Governor of the Bahamas.

Died.—At *Paris*, Robert Bray O'Reilly, Esq. formerly Manager of the Opera at the Pantheon.—At *Rome*, aged 82, Henry Benedict Marie Clement Cardinal

Cardinal York. He was born in that city the 8th of March, 1725. The Regent Duke of Orleans, had to please the Cabinet of St. James's, (by a threat to withdraw the pension paid him by France) obliged the first Pretender, his father, to reside in Rome. After the issue of the invasion of Scotland in 1745, French policy again humbled the fallen Stuarts, and engaged this Prince by brilliant persuasions to enter the church. In 1747, he was by Pope Benedict XIV. nominated a Cardinal, and as such passed his days in quiet and dignified retirement at his villa near Rome, until 1798, when a French revolutionary banditti forced him to renounce his comforts if he would save his life. He arrived at Venice in the winter of that year, infirm as well as destitute; but no sooner did intelligence of his distressed situation reach this country, than his Majesty, unrequested, directed his Minister to the Republic, to offer the Cardinal, with all possible delicacy, a pension of 1000l. for life. This amiable trait in the character of George IIId. does equal honour to the King and the Man. The Cardinal was a studious and well informed Prince, and a sincerely pious prelate. His purse was always open to suffering humanity, and British travellers particularly, whether ruined by misfortune or imprudence, found in him on all occasions a compassionate benefactor. He possessed before 1798, a very valuable collection of curiosities at his villa, where many scarce tracts and interesting manuscripts concerning the unfortunate House of Stuart, were among the ornaments of his library. In his will, made in January, 1789, he had left the latter to his relation Count Stuarton, but they were all in 1798, either plundered by the French and Italian jacobins at Rome, or confiscated by French Commissaries for the Libraries or Museums at Paris. The Cardinal returned to Rome in 1801, and died the Doyen of the Sacred College, after being one of its most virtuous and disinterested members upwards of fifty years.

On board the *Canopus*, off Alexandria, aged 49, Sir Thomas Louis, Bart. of Chelston, Devon (so created March 29, 1806), Rear-admiral of the White, Knight of the Order of Maria Theresa, and of St. Ferdinand and Merit, whose long and faithful services to his country were as valuable in a public point of view, as his virtues were in the esteem of all those who had the honour and pleasure of his acquaintance. On the 16th he was on shore walking, and complained to some of those around him of a little pain. On his return on board he ate his dinner with his usual appetite, and went to bed in very good spirits, having felt much relieved during the evening, and expected a good night's sleep. Unfortunately he was again attacked about four in the morning of the 17th; and medical advice, both from the army and navy, was sent for, his attendants being apprehensive of danger. The physicians and surgeons quitted the Canopus, and went on shore about noon, leaving the Admiral, in their opinion, free from all dangerous symptoms, and without any apprehension of an inflammation taking place. About three o'clock, however, a great alteration for the worse was perceived, and the faculty were again immediately sent for to repair on board the Canopus. On their arrival, at four o'clock, they gave over all hopes of the Admiral's recovery, as the mortification in his bowels had already taken place. He remained sensible, except a little wandering at times, to the last half hour, and at ten that night expired, in the presence of Capt. Shortland and Mr. Nicholson, his captain and secretary. His body was conveyed to Malta on board his Majesty's sloop of war Bittern, where Sir Alexander Ball, his friend and companion through the service, and Capt. Schomberg, saw his remains deposited with all the honours due to his rank, by the side of the gallant Abercromby. By his death, his country has to lament one of its naval heroes, who, in concert with the immortal Nelson, obtained the glorious battle of the Nile; —a victory which, as it will ever be the pride and glory of Englishmen, must render the more dear to them the names of those brave men by whose valour it was atchieved. His wife has to bewail the loss of a tender husband, his children an affectionate parent, all his connexions an endearing relation, and society one of its brightest ornaments; for his exemplary conduct in all those relative duties are no where to be surpassed. He has left Lady Louis, with four sons and three daughters, the eldest of whom, Sir John Louis, Bart. a Captain in the Royal Navy, has succeeded to his title.

RETROSPECT

Retrospect of Public Affairs.

THE articles of the important treaties made at Tilsit between the conqueror and his two antagonists, have at length been given to the public; at least such of them as are intended for the public eye. Of that between Napoleon and the Emperor of Russia, signed on July 7th, several of the first articles relate to the terms of peace granted to Prussia, which will be hereafter mentioned, and which are said to be concessions owing to the French Emperor's esteem for the sovereign of Russia. The principal conditions relative to the two contracting powers are the following. The emperor Alexander cedes his right to the duchy of Jever, in East Friesland, to the king of Holland. In return, by way of establishing a natural boundary between the territories of Russia and the new duchy of Warsaw, a limitary line is marked out, which gives an extension to the Russian dominions on that side. The French emperor accepts the mediation of Alexander to negotiate a definitive peace between France and England, but only upon condition that England accepts the mediation within one month after the ratification of the present treaty. The emperor of Russia acknowledges the kings of Naples, Holland, and Westphalia, the confederation of the Rhine, and the sovereigns who now or may hereafter belong to it: and also acknowledges the cession made by the king of Prussia. All hostilities are immediately to cease between Russia and the Porte, and the Russian troops are to be withdrawn from Moldavia, but that province is not to be occupied by Turkish troops till after a definitive treaty between the two powers, for which treaty Russia accepts the mediation of France. The two emperors mutually guarantee to each other the integrity of their possessions; and the ceremonial between their courts is placed upon a footing of perfect equality. All prisoners on both sides are to be restored in a mass without a cartel. The commercial relations between France and her allies, and Russia, are to be renewed as before the war.

By the treaty of peace between France and Prussia, ratified at Konigsberg on July 12th, the king of Prussia is permitted to retain of his former dominions all that part of the duchy of Magdeburg which lies on the right (eastern) bank of the Elbe, the mark of Priegnitz, the Uttermark and Neumark of Brandenburg, the duchy of Pomerania, Pomerelia, Silesia with the county of Glatz, and the kingdom of Prussia as it subsisted before 1772 (the period of the first dismemberment of Poland). He resigns all his possessions between the Rhine and the Elbe, the circle of Kotbus, in Lusatia (which goes to Saxony) and all the provinces formerly belonging to Poland, with the exception of a connecting district between Pomerania and Old Prussia. He recognizes all the new-made kings, and the confederation of the Rhine and its sovereigns. *He agrees to shut his ports against England during the continuance of the war.* He renounces all claim to Dantzic, which is constituted an independent state. He permits a military road through his territories to the king of Saxony from that prince's German dominions, to that part of Poland taken from Prussia and conferred upon Saxony by the present treaty under the title of the duchy of Warsaw. Of the country taken from him on the left of the Elbe, together with some other districts taken from Hesse, Brunswick, and Fulda, a new kingdom is to be formed for Jerome Bonaparte, who adopts the title of king of Westphalia.

By this treaty, which perhaps is as favourable to a potentate completely stript of his dominions as could be expected, the king of Prussia is reckoned to lose five millions of subjects, and is reduced from the condition of a first-rate continental power, to that of one of the subaltern princes who now divide Germany under the paramount authority of the French emperor. The unfortunate king has since issued a short but pathetic address to the subjects whom he has thus been compelled to renounce, some of whom are among the oldest dependants on his crown.

Nothing in Germany now resists the power of Napoleon, but the king of Sweden, who even affects to consider him as an usurper, and with the spirit of his father at the commencement of the French revolution, maintains that *cause of kings* which all the rest of Europe has abandoned. In the unequal contest he

he has lost the whole of Swedish Pomerania except Stralsund, which he defends with great resolution, regardless of the suffering inhabitants, whose ruin must be the consequence of a protracted siege. Many of the opulent citizens have taken refuge in the isle of Rugen.

Although it has not been the plan of Napoleon in his late conquests directly to annex any new territory to France, yet he has given the French frontier an extension and additional security on the side of Holland, by taking into its limits all the fortresses on the Maese to its discharge into the sea. Holland is to have a compensation of territory on the side of Westphalia.

Preparations are said to be making for the march of a French army into Portugal, for the purpose of compelling that power to shut its ports against the British commerce. The certainty of a similar attempt with respect to Denmark was doubtless the cause of a measure of the British government, which nothing but a regard to self-preservation could justify, and the necessity of which must be deeply lamented by every friend of justice and humanity. A very powerful fleet, with a large body of land forces, has been sent to pass the Sound, and invest the isle of Zealand, in order to compel the unoffending Danes to take part with England, or, at least, to afford them the plea of inability to comply with the expected requisition of France.

The hostility offered to the American frigate Chesapeak by the English man of war the Leopard, excited, as might be expected, a great flame in the United States, and many violent resolutions have been entered into at certain popular meetings. These, however, are of less consequence than a proclamation issued on July 2d by President Jefferson, which, after stating in strong terms the injury received, and affirming that the men reclaimed were native citizens of the United States, orders the immediate departure of all British ships of war, bearing commissions from the government, from all the harbours and waters of the United States, and interdicts all intercourse and communication should they refuse. It also forbids the future entrance of such ships into the harbours or waters of the States, unless compelled by stress of weather, or pursuit of an enemy, or bearing dispatches from the government.

Letters of an unpleasant tenor passed between commodore Douglas and the mayor of the town of Norfolk, in Virginia; but a deputation from the town having gone on board the commodore's ship in order to enquire whether or no he had any hostile intentions, a polite and conciliatory answer was given, which was afterwards made public, and it is hoped will tend to allay the ferment of men's spirits. The commodore has since sailed away for Halifax. Nothing is yet known of the discussions between the two governments; but goods are shipped as usual for America, and the general opinion is, that the affair will terminate amicably.

The concluding proceedings of the session of Parliament have been the only domestic events of the month which have excited the public interest. The bill for preventing the reversionary grants of places, which had passed the House of Commons without opposition, upon being read before the Lords was very unexpectedly opposed by Lord Arden (brother-in-law to the Chancellor of the Exchequer) seconded by Lord Melville, who represented it as an infringement of the royal prerogative; and upon a division, in a thin house, August 4th, it was thrown out by 15 against 9. In consequence of this measure, Mr. Bankes, in the House of Commons, having first procured a committee for searching the journals of the Lords, moved on Aug. 10th, That an address be presented to his Majesty, requesting that he would not grant any place or salary in reversion till six weeks after the commencement of the next session of parliament; which was voted nem. con. and not without some severe strictures on the conduct of the Lords in the matter.

The House of Lords has also rejected, at the second reading, Mr. Whitbread's bill for the establishment of parochial schools.

Considerable debates arose in both houses concerning the augmentation of the regular army out of the militia, and the Irish insurrection bills. Mr. Sheridan, on Aug. 13th, in a forcible and eloquent speech, introduced a motion respecting the state of Ireland, the purpose of which was, that it should be taken into serious consideration on an early day after the commencement of the next

session of parliament, with the hope that it might be no longer necessary to continue the two bills passed this session to prevent insurrections, &c. It was of course negatived.

On August 14th Parliament was prorogued with a speech from the throne. It did not disguise the difficult and dangerous circumstances in which the country is placed, but expressed reliance on the spirit and perseverance of the nation to meet the exigence. It strongly declared his Majesty's resolution to maintain the just rights of his crown against any undue pretensions, and against *any hostile confederacy*. On the whole it was regarded as presenting a prospect rather of more extended war than of peace.

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

The present is the principal season for the arrival of our fleets from abroad, in the same way that the winter months are the chief period for their departure. The homeward convoys have been this year particularly fortunate; they have experienced both temperate weather and favourable winds. To the arrivals mentioned in our last Number, we have now the satisfaction of adding an India fleet of eleven sail, and the second Jamaica fleet, consisting of nearly one hundred sail. In the latter, we believe no casualty has taken place; in the former, we have to regret the loss of the Ganges; which ship it was necessary to abandon at sea on account of her leaky state. The crew and passengers, to the number of more than two hundred persons were saved, but a very valuable cargo was lost.

A small West India convoy has lately sailed, outward bound, and there will be no other till the end of October or beginning of November, when the great departure takes place. Several East India ships for Madras and Bengal, and two for Bombay, are preparing with great expedition. The Captains took leave more than a fortnight ago, and it is expected that the ships will finally be ready in a week hence.

The topic, which, at present, engages most generally the attention of the mercantile part of the community, and indeed, of the public at large, is one to which we have more than once adverted—the unhappy and ruinous condition of the West India planters, in consequence of the depression of the sugar market. The Report of the Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the commercial state of the West Indies, was delivered and printed last month. It was too late in the Session for Ministers or the Legislature to bestow on this report the attention which was necessary to devise measures adapted to the exigency of the case, and the prorogation took place without any thing being done, except giving a pledge that the House would make it the object of their early attention next year. It is one important step, however, towards relief, that the distress of the West India body has been told to the Nation by the Reports of two Committees of the House of Commons, and told in the most affecting language. The object of the first West India Committee was to inquire into the expediency of introducing sugar into the distilleries and breweries. They made their Report in March, and its tendency was to discourage altogether the idea of making beer from sugar under our present excise laws, and even to dissuade the use of sugar in distilling, unless barley was at such a price as would render it advisable in Government to prohibit its use in making spirits. They concluded, however, by recommending such an alteration in the Excise laws as might render it possible to carry this measure into execution at any future period when it might be required by circumstances of imperious necessity.

The second West India Committee was appointed about the time that the Report of the former was made. Its object was much more extensive, having been appointed to inquire into every important circumstance connected with the commercial state of the West Indian Colonies. To do justice to so comprehensive an investigation, this Committee ought to have been constituted not in March, but in January, for it is not in one nor in two months that so difficult

difficult a subject can be examined to the bottom. The members, however, appear to have made a diligent use of their time, and to have collected a variety of evidence on the subject. They begin by stating, that since 1799, the situation of the planter has gradually become worse and worse, until at length, sugar, instead of paying him as it ought, a profit of ten per cent. on his capital, does not re-pay the mere disburse, without any allowance whatever of profit, or even of interest for the money advanced. The sugar planter alone, in exception to every similar case, is prevented from indemnifying himself for the increase of duty by an equivalent increase of price to the consumer. Every addition to the duty has been paid by himself, and by a singular and melancholy coincidence, the price to the consumer has decreased in proportion as the duty paid by the planter to Government has advanced. To remedy these alarming evils, the Committee propose three expedients: 1st. a decrease of duty, from which, we fear, they expect more than the wants of the country can afford.—2d. an increase of bounty, in which, they do not seem to us to have dwelt enough; and 3dly. the interruption of the intercourse between Cuba, Porto Rico, Martinique, and Guadaloupe, by American ships through the medium of the United States. Thinking that the forcible interruption of this traffic might lead to hostilities with America, and that the consequence of these hostilities would be a deficiency of plantation stores (chiefly provisions and lumber,) in our new West India Islands, the Committee directed their attention to inquire how far this deficiency could be made good by supplies from our own North American possessions, namely, Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. On this head, the evidence given by merchants in that branch of trade is by no means satisfactory—it goes to prove, that after considerable preparation, a large quantity of supplies both of flour and lumber might be procured, but that, at present, nothing can be depended on in sufficient quantity, except fish. All that the Committee then can decide on this head is, that the evils of an inadequate supply of stores will not be of such magnitude as the evil of an inadequate market. They conclude by saying, that "unless some speedy and efficient means of relief are adopted, the ruin of a great number of planters, and of other persons dependent on West India properties for their income, must inevitably, very soon, take place, which must be followed by the loss of a vast capital advanced on securities in those countries, and by the most fatal injury to the commercial, maritime, and financial interests of Great Britain." It is impossible to convey these truths in more impressive language, but the public will have a more distinct idea of the planter's misery when they are told, that out of every hundred hogsheads which are sold at present prices, Government receives nearly 1,750l. for duty, the ship owner is paid 650l. for freight, the merchant, the broker and insurer each have their respective profits, but the planter, who is the source of all these benefits to others, not only receives no recompence whatever for his own labour, or for the labour of his negroes, but actually loses 180l. on his capital on every hundred hogsheads of sugar which he makes. Such a situation, we believe, is unexampled in the history of commerce.

Although Ministers have carefully avoided saying any thing on the prospect of peace either during the sitting of Parliament or in the King's Speech at its prorogation, we continue to hope, that this much wished-for event is not far distant. To those who object to this hope, the distracted state of the North of Europe, we answer that the North of Europe was equally distracted in 1801, only five months before the signature of the preliminaries of peace. We, by no means say, that the British Nation is unable to continue the war, whether against France and her Allies, or even against Europe, Asia, and America united, but we argue, that we have the means of making a highly honourable peace, and that to be at peace instead of war would be greatly to the advantage of our commerce, our revenue, and our general happiness.

Although Sir James Craig has been sent out to Canada, with three regiments of infantry, the fear of a rupture with America, seems to have, in a great measure, subsided. The turbulent spirits in the United States appeared disposed to carry every thing to extremities, but we hope, that the conciliating communication of Mr. Tazewell, an intelligent lawyer of the town of Norfolk, has extinguished those embers which were ready to kindle into a flame.

20th August, 1807.

CURRENT PRICES OF MERCHANDIZE.

American Pot-ash per cwt.	21	15s	0d.	to	31.	8s.	0d.	Logwood Chips . ton.	14l.	5s.	0d	to	15l	10s. 0d.
Ditto Pearl	3	5	0	—	3	15	0	Madder, Dutch crop cwt	4	5	0	—	5	5 0
Barilla	2	4	0	—	2	16	0	Mahogany —— ft.	0	1	2	—	0	2 4
Brandy, Coniac gal.	1	0	0	—	1	1	0	Oak Plank, Dantz. last	11	0	0	—	12	0 0
Ditto Spanish	0	18	0	—	0	19	6	Ditto American ——		none				
Camphire, refined lb.	0	4	8	—	0	5	0	Oil, Lucca 25 gal. jar	16	0	0	—	16	15 0
Ditto unrefined cwt.	16	10	0	—	20	5	0	Ditto spermaceti—ton	72	0	0	—	75	0 0
Cochineal, garbled lb.	1	2	0	—	1	11	6	Ditto whale ——	25	0	0	—	27	0 0
Ditto East India	0	3	0	—	0	6	0	Ditto Florence ½ chest	2	15	0	—	2	18 0
Coffee, fine cwt.	6	10	0	—	7	0	0	Pitch Stockholm cwt.	0	14	6	—	0	15 6
Ditto, ordinary	4	15	0	—	5	10	0	Quicksilver —— lb.	0	3	5	—	0	3 6½
Cotton-wool, Surin. lb.	0	1	9	—	0	2	0	Raisins, bloom,—cwt.	3	10	0	—	5	5 0
Ditto Jamaica	0	1	4½	—	0	1	6	Rice, Carolina ——	1	5	6	—	2	0 0
Ditto Smyrna	0	1	7½	—	0	1	9	Ditto East India ——		none				
Ditto East India	0	1	3	—	0	1	4	Rum, Jamaica — gal.		3	3	—	0	4 6
Currants, Zant cwt.	4	0	0	—	4	7	0	Ditto Leeward Island		2	9	—	0	3 5
Deals, Dantz. piece	1	16	0	—	1	19	0	Saltpetre, E. In. cwt.	2	14	0	—	2	15 0
Ditto Petersburgh H.	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	Shellach ——	5	5	0	—	10	0 0
Ditto Stockholm	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	Silk, Thrown Italian lb.	1	11	0	—	2	15 0
Elephants' Teeth	31	0	0	—	36	0	0	Silk, Raw Ditto ——	1	2	3	—	1	12 6
—— Scrivell	20	0	0	—	26	0	0	Ditto China ——	1	16	0	—	1	19 6
Flax, Riga ton.	69	0	0	—	70	0	0	Ditto Beng. —— novi	0	12	0	—	1	6 0
Ditto Petersburgh	72	0	0	—	73	0	0	Ditto Organzine ——	1	9	0	—	1	18 0
Galls, Turkey cwt.	5	5	0	—	6	15	0	Tallow, English cwt.	3	0	6	—		
Geneva, Hollands gal.	1	0	0	—	1	1	6	Ditto Russia, white—	2	16	0	—	2	17 0
Ditto, English	0	8	3	—	0	12	0	Ditto —— yellow —	3	0	0	—	3	1 0
G. Arabic, Turk. cwt.	6	0	0	—	11	15	0	Tar, Stockholm - bar.	1	11	0	—	1	12 0
Ditto Sandrach	7	5	0	—	8	0	0	Tin in Blocks—— cwt.	6	6	0	—		
Ditto Tragacanth	18	0	0	—	20	10	0	Tobacco, Maryl. — lb.	0	0	5½	—	0	1 1h
Gum Seneca cwt.	5	5	0	—	6	10	0	Ditto Virginia ——	0	0	4	—	0	0 9h
Hemp, Riga ton.	66	0	0	—	0	0	0	Wax, Guinea—— cwt.	7	0	0	—	10	10 0
Ditto Petersburgh	65	0	0	—	66	0	0	Whale-fins —— ton.	15	10	0	—	25	0 0
Indigo, Carracca lb.	0	11	3	—	0	12	9	Wine, Red Port pipe	86	0	0	—	94	0 0
Ditto East India	0	4	0	—	0	13	0	Ditto Lisbon ——	88	0	0	—	90	0 0
Iron, British, bars ton.	16	0	0	—	17	10	0	Ditto Madeira ——	98	0	0	—	130	0 0
Ditto Swedish	25	0	0	—	26	0	0	Ditto Vidonia ——	72	0	0	—	76	0 0
Ditto Norway	24	0	0	—	25	0	0	Ditto Calcavella ——	84	0	0	—	95	0 0
Ditto Archangel ——	25	0	0	—	26	0	0	Ditto Sherry —— butt	84	0	0	—	105	0 0
Lead in pigs ——fod.	33	0	0	—	0	0	0	Ditto Mountain ——	72	0	0	—	80	0 0
Ditto red —— ton.	32	0	0	—	33	0	0	Ditto Claret——hogs.	86	0	0	—	94	0 0
Ditto white ——	50	0	0	—	51	0	0	Yarn Mohair —— lb.	0	4	3	—	0	8 1

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

	Aug. 4th	Aug. 11th	Aug. 18th		Aug. 4th	Aug. 11th	Aug. 18th
Amsterdam	36 3	36 3	36 3	Bilboa	38	38 1-q.	38 1-q.
Ditto at sight	35 8	35 8	35 8	Leghorn	50	50	50
Rotterdam, c. f.	11 7	11 7	11 7	Naples	42	42	42
Hamburgh	34 8	34 8	34 8	Genoa	45 1-q.	45 1-q.	45 1-q.
Altona	34 9	34 9	34 9	Venice, N. C.	52	52	52
Paris	24 8	24 8	24 8	Lisbon	64 1-h.	64 1-h.	64 1-h.
Ditto 2 us.	24 12	24 12	24 12	Oporto	64 1-h.	64 1-h.	64 1-h.
Bourdeaux	24 12	24 12	24 12	Dublin	10 3-q.	10 3-q.	10 3-q.
Cadiz	38 1-q.	38 1-q.	38 1-q.	Cork	11 1-h.	11 1-h.	11 1-h.
Madrid	38 1-q.	38 1-q.	38 1-q.	Agio on the Bank of Holland		5½ per cent.	

PRICES OF BULLION.

Portugal Gold, Coin and Bars	per oz.	4l.	0s. 0d.
New Dollars		0	5 5
Silver in Bars, standard		0	5 6

PRICE OF STOCKS.

3 per Cent. Reduced	62⅞ 63
4 per Cent.	80⅞ 81
Omnium	¼ dis.
Imp. 3 p. c.	62½
Exch. Bills 2 Disc. 1 pr.	
Lottery Tickets	00l. 0s.
Consols for ac.	62¼ ⅜ ¼

NEW LLOYD'S COFFEE-HOUSE, 20th JULY, 1807.

PREMIUMS OF INSURANCE.

LONDON to		JAMAICA to the	
the East Indies	6l. 6s. per ct.	American States	10 gs. per ct.
out and home	12 —	Quebec or Montreal	12 do.
Jamaica	8 gs. retr. 4l. 0s.	Newfoundland	12 do.
Leeward Islands	ditto	London, Liverpool, Bristol, Dublin, &c.	20 do. retr. 5l.
Musquito Shore	10 do.	LEEWARD ISLANDS to	
America (their ships)	3 do.	Quebec, Montreal, Newfoundland, &c.	20 do. retr. 5l.
Ditto (British ships)	10 do. retr. 5l. 0s.	American States	12 gs.
Newfoundland	6 do.	Cork, Waterf. or Dublin	8 do. retr. 4l.
Greenland (out and home)	8 do.	Bristol, Chester, Liverpool	do.
Southern Fishery (do.)	20 do.	NEWFOUNDLAND to	
Mediterranean	10 do. retr. 5l. 0s.	American States	5 gs.
Lisbon or Oporto	5 — — 3 0	Jamaica & Leeward Island	25 do.
Stockholm, &c.	4 — — 2 0	Lisbon or Oporto	10 do. retr. 5l.
Gottenburgh	3 — — 1 10	Plym. Dartm. Exeter, &c.	8 do. — 4
Tonningen (Neutrals)	2 do.	Bristol, Liverpool, &c.	8 — — 4 0
Dublin, Waterford, Cork, Newry, or Belfast	2½ do.	Dublin, Cork, &c.	do.
Limerick or Galway	3 do.	Portsmouth, London, &c.	do.
Bristol, Wales, Chester, Liverpool, Whitehaven, &c.	2 do.	QUEBEC to Ireland	10 gs. retr. 5l. 0.
All parts of Scotland	1½ do.	Great Britain	do.
Hull or Gainsborough	1¼ do.	DENMARK or SWEDEN to Bengal and China	5 gs.
		out and home	7 do.

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, Fire Office Shares, &c. in AUG. 1807; *at the Office of Mr. Scott, 25, New-Bridge-street, London.*

Neath Canal, Glamorganshire, 200l. to 212l. per share, divid. 12l. 10s. nett per share.—*Grand Junction*, 90l.—*St. Agnes Pier and Harbour*, 95l. dividing 6l. 15s. nett per share.—*Ellesmere Canal*, 56l.—*Lancaster*, 19l. 10s.—*Brecon*, 40l.—*Kennet and Avon*, 20l. to 21l.—*New ditto*, 2l. 10s. per share premium.—*Ashby de la Zouch*, 24l.—*Crinan Canal*, 7l. 7s. per share.—*Union*, 29l.—*West India Dock Stock*, 145l. per cent.—*London Dock*, 113l. to 113l. 10s.—*East India Dock*, 125l.—*Globe Insurance*, 112l.—*Imperial*, 10l. to 11l. per cent. premium.—*Albion*, 1l. per cent. premium.—*Rock Assurance*, 5s. to 7s. premium.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR AUGUST, 1807.

The wheat crop may be looked upon as generally harvested in all the forward counties, and begun upon in the most backward. It is universally great in quantity and fine in quality, excepting some smutty samples, the natural consequence of the late season, being to a certain degree blighting; but much of this will be heavy wheat. There are particular reasons for the expectation that wheat will yield abundantly to the flail this season, and the straw is generally larger than could have been supposed. Had the rains fallen six weeks earlier, this would have been a year of wonderful produce. St. Swithin's rule was completely set aside; it rained on both the days, new stile and old; but dry weather, instead of daily rain, succeeded.

Barley and oats are good crops, and generally of good quality, with the same exception as the wheat. Peas are as generally bad; in some parts not the seed produced; in others scarcely haulm for the seed. Turnips, potatoes, and seeds will be an indifferent crop. Hops have in course suffered more from the blight than any other article, and will perhaps bring more than half a crop of various quality. Orchard fruit will be plentiful.

Feed continues short, and lean stock dearer in proportion than fat. Well bred store sheep much in request and dear. Considerable import of cattle from Ireland and a few horses.

Smithfield. Beef 4s. to 5s. 4d. Mutton 4s. to 5s. Lamb 4s. to 6s. Veal 3s. to 6s. Pork 4s. to 6s. Bacon 6s. to 6s. 4d. Irish do. 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d. Fat 3s. 5d.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

THE corn harvest is every where now in a state of great forwardness; the frequent showers we have recently had hindering a little at the time that business, have been of much service to the grain. The crops of wheat on warm loamy soils are found to turn out well; the straw rather short. Early sown barley and oats are equally good.

On

On the cold strong clay lands the crops in general are very indifferent; and in many such situations the winter and spring corn prove to be short in the ear and straw, and thin on the ground, having suffered much in the spring.

Peas have in most places failed, and where suffered to remain for a crop are very indifferent. Beans are expected to turn out a middling crop. Turnips are in general good; in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk remarkably so. Potatoes since the rains have improved much. The second crop of clover and tares grow fast. The lands fallowed for wheat have been in general well managed, and are in a state of great forwardness. The writer of this report having lately passed through the fens, observed that the crops of wheat and oats (which were not damaged by the floods in May) were in general good; but the beans and barley, owing to the dry and chilling winds in the spring, will be below average crops.

Oats sown on the newly-enclosed Common of Menai are remarkably strong and fine, and are expected to yield upon an average twelve quarters per acre of clean heavy corn. Hemp not so good as last year; but the flax exceedingly fine.

Coleseed for a crop, or winter feed for sheep, very luxuriant and thriving, promising abundance of excellent keep.

Since the recent improvement in all situations made by the late rains in the growth of the pastures and eddishes, and the general good appearance of the turnip crops on the high lands, and coleseed on the low, the prices of lean stock have much advanced, as the demand for them at the ensuing Michaelmas fairs is expected to be great.

As young fresh horses continue to be much wanted for commercial and military services, their prices are still kept up. Pig meat will be both scarce and valuable this winter; the prices of large stores are upon the decline; the smaller sort, to turn into the stubbles, and to be fed off for pork, are much in request and at a considerable advance.

PRICE OF GRAIN.

	ENGLAND AND WALES.			SCOTLAND.	
	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat	75	5		68	10
Rye	48	9		35	2
Barley	39	0		34	5
Oats	30	0		28	9
Beans	48	11		45	6
Peas	54	10		46	6
Oatmeal	44	7		23	5
Bigg	—	—		28	6

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Editor has cause to be flattered with the desire of a Correspondent, that he would permit his portrait to be placed as a decoration to the first volume of the Athenæum. But though the Editor has not been backward in presenting the features of his mind *to public view, he thinks it advisable to be more reserved with respect to his* person. *He does, indeed, occupy a corner in a print of his brother doctors of the* Medical Society, *but with little advantage to the group. Should any readers of the Athenæum feel a curiosity to know what sort of a countenance he exhibits, they may picture to themselves a thin rough visage, with grey eyes, and a protuberant* family *nose. If there is any good point about it, it is an expression of openness, which he humbly hopes is not quite uncharacteristic.*

Our thanks are due for an abundance of valuable communications, the writers of which will have the goodness not to think their favours neglected, because many of them must necessarily be deferred. It will be observed that in the present number a greater space than before is allotted to Correspondence, *and it is probable that an equal allotment to that interesting department must be continued.*

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